

# 1st Gay Film: New York Raves

# B.A.R.

**BAY AREA REPORTER** 1550 Howard Street, San Francisco Tel.: 861-5019

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NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 7

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Red Star Cheese Company  
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\*The businesses participating in Keys To The City are generally either gay-owned or contribute significantly to the employment of gay men and women in this community. However, this would not justify any inferences as to the sexual orientation of any owner or employee of the businesses participating in Keys To The City.

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B

## 8th Anniversary Issue



# 1st Gay Film: New York Raves

## Word is Out Seduces New York

by George Mendenhall

NEW YORK CITY - The first full-length Gay liberation film has opened here and has taken this city by storm. Rave reviews and capacity houses have made "Word Is Out" a spontaneous success at the 300-seat Eastside Cinema.

The movie presents 26 Gay men and Lesbians talking about their lifestyles, coming out, the relationship with parents, and their beginnings in the Gay movement. It played at San Francisco's Gateway Theater for four months before moving to The Big Apple. "Word Is Out" will open in Los Angeles in April.

This reporter attended the star-studded

opening night, with the East Coast and Southern states participants in the film in attendance. The Easter Sunday NYC premiere was MC'd by Vito Russo, well-known Gay entertainment journalist. He introduced cast members and the producer to a cheering capacity crowd.

TIME, NEWSWEEK, PLAYBOY and NEW YORKER critics have seen "Word Is Out" and reviews are forthcoming. Movie critic Rex Reed has also seen the film and is expected to comment on it for national syndication.

Cast members, critics and members of Adair Films and the Mariposa Film Group of San Francisco (who produced the film) attended

a cocktail party near the Eastside Cinema before the opening. Those who have seen the film would have recognized the "stars" who had come from San Francisco, New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, Philadelphia and Brooklyn.

Those attending the opening from the cast included Linda, the woman on the swing; David, now without his teeth braces; Cynthia, who talked while in gym shorts; Ann, the country veterinarian; Michael and Earl, the Black lovers at Princeton; Mark, the Madison Avenue executive; Roger, the somewhat eccentric actor; and this reporter.

"Word Is Out" is also being used by Gay groups as a fund-raiser in selected locations. One showing raised \$1,800 for Body Politic in Toronto. It has also had two showings in San Francisco for the blind and deaf with signers and as a benefit for the (Gay) Community Softball League. The film was screened for the American Anthropological Society this month at a S.F. conference and also for the S.F. American Civil Liberties Union.

The world premiere

of "Word Is Out" raised \$5,500 at San Francisco's Castro Theater in December. The benefit was for Gay activism, with money being divided between Bay Area Coalition Against the Briggs Initiative, Northern California Human Rights Advocates, Gay Teachers, and State Campus Coalition of Gays.

Plans for the film include the publication of the book, "Word Is Out," a collection of interviews with the 26 people in the film with still photos. Glide Books is the publisher.

Over 18,000 saw the film in San Francisco during its four-month stay. In surveying audiences, the filmmakers learned that 99.6% said they would recommend that a friend see the production. It is estimated that 85% of the audience was Gay, although the number of straights buying tickets rose to 50% during the final screenings.

The positive reviews in the New York City newspapers could assure success of the \$250,000 film, as a major distributor will now be

### New York City Reviews

"One of the most appealing things about this graceful, funny and often very moving documentary is its altogether disarming presentation of material that might have invited prejudice or misunderstanding; in this case, what could have been a titillating revelation is artfully molded into nothing more than a wry and tender little surprise. . . . Even filmgoers who imagine they'd rather sit through root canal work than find out what it's like to be homosexual may wind up unexpectedly captivated by the film's friendly, even-handed approach to a potentially divisive subject. . . . 'Word Is Out' is comfortably constructed and quite informative, but what really carries the film is its casual seductiveness."

. . . New York Times

"You come away with a most powerful sense of real, serious-minded, essentially good people who have chosen to stand up and be counted as pursuers of a lifestyle still widely vilified in American society. The picture makes a strong case for a sane and dispassionate appraisal."

. . . New York Post

"The 26 who participate are uncommonly compelling as people, so clear-minded and articulate about their choices, so forthright and fearless about 'showing it' to the documentary cameras, that the results more than anything else resemble a Gay film for straights. . . . It is a picture less interested in preaching to the converted than in building real inroads of communication to the rest of the world. . . . presenting it in easily understood, human terms."

. . . New York Daily News

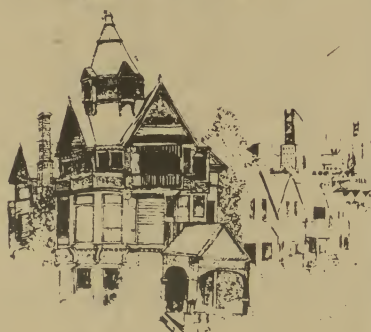
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Entertainer Pat Bond, one of those interviewed in the successful WORD IS OUT.



easier to secure.

National Educational Television (NET) will present "Word Is Out" on the NET station in New York City in October, financed by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation ...

Individual stations may also carry the program across the nation by paying established NET charges. San Francisco's KQED-TV may also carry the special screening.

members on the advertisements indicated a split on the Gay rights issue. Initially there was an 11-14 vote to table the issue, which failed. Later it passed by a 14-8 vote with one abstaining.

Norman Leach, Program Administrator of the Council, told B.A.R. that one of the divisions within the body is that some members support the civil rights of homosexuals while still believing that homosexuality itself is a sin. Leach explained that he did not believe that homosexuality is a sin.

Atty. John Wahl, Council member and a director of Metropolitan Community Church, told his fellow members that "one of the greatest stumbling blocks that we have in communicating the Christian message is the judgmental attitude shown by the opposition to this advertisement. This attitude is not the message that Christ preached as Christ called for the consideration of ALL people." Wahl added, "This opposition is what drives people away from hearing the message of God."

The advertisement which was being considered would have similar content to this: "WHAT ARE GAY PEOPLE? Gay people are plumbers, teachers, grandfathers, lawyers, factory workers (50 other listings). They should be treated like everyone else. THAT IS WHAT HUMANITY IS ALL ABOUT." ... G.M.

## S.F. Grants Gays

## Full Rights

by Bruce Pettit

Once the Board of Supervisors gives final passage to a new Article 33 for the city's Police Code, discrimination against Gay people will be illegal in San Francisco. That certainty was delayed a week after substantial Board action this week.

Supervisor Quentin Kopp Monday added ten amendments to an ordinance prohibiting rejections of people based solely on sexual orientation. He said he feared successful judicial challenge and offered the changes "to make sure the language is doing what it's supposed to do." Kopp implied his amendments would not have been necessary if the original drafting had been done by "certified lawyers," not law students.

The Board rejected only one of Kopp's suggestions. His most far-reaching revision gave courts simply the option — not an order — to award punitive damages to aggrieved Gay persons. Kopp contended the Board had no power to require courts to award punitive damages, but he did not alter mandates to award "special or general" damages.

Kopp clarified that injunctions under the ordinance would be ordered by Superior Courts, but he doubted that the City Attorney's reservations had much merit. If it were to be held that cities may not legislate for state courts, only one part of the ordinance — and not its whole — would be invalidated, said Kopp.

For a year Attorney Matt Coles and the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club promoted the bill to obligate more than just businesses which contract with city government — the effect of a 1971 amendment to the Administrative Code. office seemed to confirm that position, but deputy city attorney Donald Garibaldi said at that time his office had no specific legislation to evaluate. The FEPA lists ten non-discriminatory categories, but, because sexual orientation is not one of them, Garibaldi felt the Board did have power to act on the new category and passage could withstand legal challenge.

In the second hour of debate, procedural questions faded and substantive misgivings surfaced. White told of his constituents' calls, and



SALLY GEBHART in the film WORD IS OUT.

### SF Church Council Sponsors Gay Ad

San Francisco's Council of Churches and its Board of Rabbis recommended that the Conference on Religion, Race and Social Concern co-sponsor advertisements calling for acceptance of the Gay lifestyle. The co-sponsor

with the independent Conference would be the SF Human Rights Commission, which initiated the project. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese has not taken a position as B.A.R. goes to press.

The Council has also ordered its Research Committee to write a position paper on Homosexuality that the Council members might consider at a future meeting. The extensive debate among Council

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Feinstein repeated many of the points given in her recent exclusive interview in B.A.R.

#### S&M vs. DRAG

Feinstein said an aspect of San Francisco's liberalism "has been the encouragement of sadism and masochism. I think we all know there have been some 22 murders, at least a dozen of which have been a result of this." Feinstein wanted to know if, under the ordinance, landlords could still evict "S&M tenants." Garibaldi said landlords would have the burden of indicating criminal activity.

Feinstein and Supervisor Lee Dolson were concerned that employers would be forced to hire persons coming to work in drag. Supervisor Bob Gonzales said that personal appearance — a non-discriminatory category in the first draft of the ordinance last fall — had been stricken from this final version. Supervisor John Molinari

pointed out that dress codes are still valid occupational qualifications.

Supervisor Quentin Kopp implied that, because the U.S. Constitution does not explicitly discriminate against Gay people (as it once condoned slavery, for instance), there is no real need for the legislation. Kopp said, "I would hope, should this ordinance be adopted, that there will be no rush to the courtroom for the securing of injunctions on a wholesale basis for the purposes of dramatizing and in effect over-reacting to the adoption." Kopp also secured a denial from co-sponsor Carol Ruth Silver that there is any intent in the bill for a "Gay affirmative action" program.

Feinstein, emphasizing she would vote for the bill because it dealt with "basics" like employment, was particularly concerned about housing. "I believe this ordinance is well intend-



QUENTIN KOPP

ed, but the first time I see that it isn't I'll move for repeal... There is a need (for the Gay community) to set some standards. Respecting each other's rights doesn't mean pushing our rights onto another who may not understand, who may not want to contend with my religion or some of my particular idiosyncrasies... There are some families in the city who may not have the sophistication and depth of understanding."

Supervisor Gordon Lau compared Gay discrimination with his own experience: "Before the Gays came here, before the Blacks came here, the Chinese were treated as the lowest form of life in San Francisco. Because I know the history of minorities in San Francisco, this is not truly a liberal city... Being heterosexual we have a bias. We're not here as legislators to vote our sexual preferences, but to vote what's right and wrong."

Molinari said he had had similar calls to White's. "There are people who have been raised all their lives to think a certain way. There were people when I was growing up who had perceptions about Black people because that's what they had always heard. I can't believe if we were passing a human rights ordinance pertain-

ing to Black people that any of us would be receiving those kinds of telephone calls."

Silver agreed. "Many people do come up in the world with a tremendous amount of prejudice against homosexuals, most of it because they've rarely met anybody they know was Gay, and if they did, did so under circumstances they thought were very unfortunate."

Supervisor Ella Hill Hutch said, "Because a few Gays engage in aberrant behavior, that does not apply to the whole Gay community. I do not share that fear."

Harvey Milk, the city's first upfront Gay supervisor, touched all points: "Within the Gay community there are criminal elements, just as there are in every group of people in this world. The time has come not to judge Gay people by their criminal aspects but by their leaders... Bring into the system those people who are locked out. Every single minority who has at one time or another been locked out became a great asset to society after they were brought in."

Now, in addition, Gay people have protection against discrimination in private employment, rental and real estate transactions, and public accommodations such as restaurants. Those categories parallel the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964, which still excludes homosexuals.

Now Gay people who suspect discrimination may, within one year, appeal to the city's Human Rights Commission and also engage in civil court action. Favorable decisions could force a violator to pay attorney's fees, lost wages, and other damages.

#### WHITE SWITCHES

Supervisor Dan White cast the only dissent in the bill's 10-1 first passage March 20 (the City Charter requires 2 votes). He changed his earlier vote as chair of the Fire Safety & Police Committee, which unanimously recommended the bill after hearing preponderantly favorable testimony.

White said in committee, "The sooner we leave discrimination in any form behind, the better off we'll be." After his position was widely reported, he got calls from his District 8 constituents concerned about "required" hiring of Gay teachers in private schools.

White then remarked to the full Board: "When you have a change, it's counterproductive when you force it on people. Gays throughout the state represent a very small minority. You have to educate those people who disagree with you."

White represents the most socially conservative supervisory district in San Francisco — Visitacion Valley and the Excelsior, just north of the Cow Palace. Helen Fama, one of White's 1977 opponents, told B.A.R. that the anti-Gay-teacher Briggs Initiative would have a 50-50 chance in the area.

White and Board President Dianne Feinstein used the first hour of a two-hour debate to try to kill the bill on technicalities. White wanted the bill sent back to his committee, claiming he was earlier unaware of "substantial" objections by City Attorney George Agnost. (Agnost had said the bill's remedies — including injunctions — fell within the jurisdiction of state courts only, which city legislatures cannot affect through law. Neither in committee nor in session did the Board ever address that position.) White never got a second to his motion to re-refer.

Feinstein felt certain the state's Fair Employment Practices Act restricted cities from legislating in private employment — the reason she did not include it in her 1971 Gay-protection bill. A November 1977 letter from the City Attorney's

#### Booths & Tests for April VD Fairs

Free testing for venereal disease plus condoms, posters and literature about VD will be available at several city locations in April. The VD booths will be sponsored and staffed by both Gay and straight employees from the City Clinic, in celebration of VD Awareness Month.

All of the VD "fairs" will be on Tuesdays at noontime. The first is on April 4 at Union Square, followed by Castro booths on April 11 and 25 at 18th and Castro. There will be a VD fair on Polk Street on April 18.

The Union Square fair (April 4) will feature Barry Milton and the Fish, sculptor Art Grand, TV emcee Joe Bavaresco, and SF-49er football star Gene Washington.

The clinic recommends at least one check-up every three months for sexually active people. All clinic information is strictly confidential. The clinic is located between Howard and Folsom Streets at 250 Fourth Street. Its hours are 9:30am - 6:00pm on Mondays and Thursdays and 8:00am - 4:00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For further information call 558-3804.

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# OPEN FORUM

## B.A.R.

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## Viewpoint

### A New Look

The B.A.R. enters its ninth year, and to celebrate the passage we have dressed the paper in new graphics. We recognize that writing '78 must be attractively packaged if it expects to be read.

Never was it easier to print leaflets, newsletters, newspapers, magazines. And never were they produced looking as smart or slick. The graphics man is as crucial as the reporter, layout as time consuming as editing. The look moves more than the content and sloppy presentation of the latter is more readily forgiven than with the former.

Newspapers and periodicals the world over have had to re-design their pages to withstand the assault of radio, film, and the omnivorous television. All the while reading levels drop. In addition, today's reader wants to take more in at a faster clip — and with as little puzzlement as possible.

Fans of fine writing dwindle as an endangered species, yet we seek their support and their criticism also. Their interest will not be ignored. Not that we always get it, yet from our writers and columnists, we increasingly call for clear and crisp prose.

We thank all who contributed to making the B.A.R. an on-going influence in our community: writers, photographers, tipsters, and even critics. . . We thank our continuing advertisers for their support, their tolerance when we blow it, and for the capital that keeps us operating.

## Letters...

### CENTER SUPPORT

\* In reply to Paul Hardman's article in the 3/16 issue of B.A.R., I couldn't agree more. The time for cooperation within the Gay community is ripe. The cause is just. We should all support a Gay Community Center. The Pride Foundation has proved just how feasible this is.

We are finally "making progress" after Orange Tuesday. Now is not the time to relax. History has proven, over and over again, just how dangerous it can be to relax and be complacent, when progress is made.

Let us continue to work together on important issues; such as ONE Gay Community Center.

Herbert S. Levy  
San Francisco

### THE GAY GOLDEN YEARS

\* The author of "To Be Old and Gay" has my sympathy — to an extent. He mentions being old and gray, but he suggests that he either isn't or he doesn't appear to be. Well, I'm 65, retired, 5'8", dapper and ignore as many as ignore me — isn't life like that in both worlds? Besides, I can size a guy up fast, and he knows very little about S&M if he thinks sadists go in for breaking fingers very often.

My lover, weight 225, height 6'3", who owned 29 HD's in his day, had 125 pairs of boots and every form of S&M toy known to man at that time, at no time broke any bone or let anyone else do so, although he let them fuck me in the mouth and ass, make me drink second-hand beer, give me whiskey enemas, jack off all over me, whip me with cats, wide belts with holes, paddles, etc. He used mud, oil, grease — you name it. But the next day I could go to work, as no marks showed — not even the brands or tattoos which he had put on me also.

Now that he is dead, like the writer I have more memories than experiences — something that happens to us all. But once in a while, I attract someone and then it's like the old days (almost) for a brief period.

I like your paper, your letter space, your lovely city (where I intend to remain and hope for a bike ride once in a while — or a hot fuck).

Well, I'm 65 and not alarmed. Folsom Street turns me on even though I turn off most there. I am well treated at Partners, the Gold Room, Horny Owl, etc. I wish the MC (bike) clubs were a bit more cordial, but one can't have everything, and I did ride 300,000 miles on the backs of some big Harleys from 1950-1973.

Name withheld

### CHANGE REGISTRATION???

\* I want to encourage all citizens to vote AGAINST Ed Davis and John Briggs in the June Primary. To assure that neither of these homophobes win the primary, it is necessary for all of us to change our registration to the Republican Party so that we may cast our votes for an alternate candidate.

To facilitate changing your party registration or to register as a new voter, Hartford Properties at 4129 18th St. (at Castro) has these forms available. Please stop by and pick up a registration card. We are open seven days a week.

Richard Zalenski  
San Francisco

### APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

\* I have been sending various San Francisco publications and articles to some of my friends back East, and the B.A.R. has been among them. I thought that you would be interested in the attached copy of a letter that I received from one of my friends who is an actor turned writer. One show that he wrote played here in San Francisco a few years ago and went on to Broadway and London, where it was nominated for best musical last year.

Jim is not the only friend of mine in New York who enjoys B.A.R., so keep up the good work. We all agree that Donald McLean is the best theater reviewer around.

Bob Kellman  
San Francisco

\* \* \*

\* Dear Bob:

Thank you for the S.F. literature — I see things are getting on. The B.A.R. has such wonderful insight into the Gay scene. Wish it were distributed regularly here on a free basis as it is there. The editors seem to have a real respect for the individual problem that each and every Gay person encounters. There is a conservatism that looks at both sides of the coin and in any political move that is an important event. I admire that.

The "Anita" cause is particularly interesting and in many ways she HELPS the movement, as I'm sure you realize. Having a clearly defined front is of most importance. How nice that show biz has rallied to a cause that is so very worthwhile. As a defender of women's rights, writer's rights, anyone's rights, it's refreshing to realize there are minds at work ready and willing to make freedom happen. A sexual preference is God-given — it is, in fact, the last holdout for both sexes. I frankly do not care what people do in bed, what they do in life is the ultimate success.

Jimmy  
New York



# Rating Milk and Silver

**SUPERVISORS MILK AND SILVER DO NOT ALWAYS AGREE — BUT THEY ARE RECEIVING MORE BOARD SUPPORT**

by Bruce Pettit

Carol Ruth Silver and Harvey Milk, the San Francisco Supervisors with the most solid Gay community backing, have reversed a January trend and are now winning more Board votes than they are losing.

In March, however, Silver showed signs of being slightly more moderate than Milk. Consequently, in the first of four quarterly surveys of Board votes planned by B.A.R. this year, Silver takes the edge in being on the prevailing side more often.

B.A.R. has selected 20 votes since the Jan. 9 inaugural that appear indicative of how the new Board stands on Gay issues and other vital city concerns. Silver has been on the winning side of 14 of them; Milk has prevailed on 12.

The two most liberal Supervisors, with colleague Bob Gonzales, led the way last week in passing the historic Human Rights Ordinance, protecting Gay people in nearly all instances of public and private employment, housing and accommodations.

Milk and Silver split on four issues in the survey.

Silver (with Ella Hill Hutch) last Monday changed her swing vote and removed from the June 6 ballot a charter amendment that would, if passed, have guaranteed binding arbitration and collective bargaining for police and firefighters in wage negotiations. The city presently forbids strikes and operates under a rigid pay formula, from the wake of the 1975 police and fire strike, which averages salaries in other Bay Area counties. Scrapping that system is considered dear to organized labor.

Silver based her position of three weeks earlier on "misinformation" about the stand of the Police Commission on the proposal. She is now aware of Commission opposition. A lobbying point against collective bargaining is that it would make Jerry Crowley, head of the Police Officers Association, de facto chief of police. Milk implored that a vote not be changed on the basis of "personalities."

Milk in February supported a defeated procedure to allow the Board president to appoint temporary committee-member replacements when regular members are absent. Cancellations of com-

mittee meetings that result for lack of this rule, Milk asserted, were frustrating the public. Silver accepted the contention that the rule change would tempt supervisors to evade responsibilities.

Milk supported, and Silver opposed, an unsuccessful move to obligate employers of five or fewer persons to the new Human Rights Ordinance. The only time in the survey when Milk won as Silver lost was in January with the passage of the stiff wild-animal-control law.

Using Milk as the paradigm, here are twenty comparisons. (Except on condominium conversion, Supervisors are listed who voted AGAINST Milk's position.)

## DIVISIONS

**Wild Animal Control** (passed 9-2 on 1-16-78). Dissenting: Silver and Gonzales.

**Committee Absentee Fillings** (defeated 3-7 on 2-14-78). Prevailing: Lau, Molinari, Hutch, Silver, Gonzales, White, Dolson. Absent: Feinstein.

**Hutch Amendment that ALL Employers Must Hire Gays** (defeated 3-8 on 3-20-78). Prevailing: Feinstein, Molinari, Silver, Gonzales, White, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

**Collective Bargaining for Police/Fire** (defeated 4-7 on 3-27-78). Prevailing: Feinstein, Molinari, Hutch, Silver, Gonzales, Kopp, Pelosi.

## LOSSES

**Board President** (Feinstein over Lau 6-5 on 1-9-78). Prevailing: Feinstein, Hutch, White, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

**Funds to Prepare Selling of Airport Bonds** (passed 8-3, with 8 votes required, on 1-16-78). Prevailing: Lau, Feinstein, Hutch, Gonzales, White, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

**MUNI Light-Rail Study Task Force** (passed 7-4 on 1-16-78). Prevailing: Feinstein, Hutch, Gonzales, White, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

**Condominium Conversion** (average approval 8-2 on four separate buildings on 1-23-78 and 3-20-78). Milk and Silver against 4-0. Hutch divided 2-2. Molinari, Lau and Gonzales in favor 3-1. Feinstein, White, Dolson, Kopp and Pelosi in favor 4-0.

**Silver Amendment in lieu of Election Run-offs**, involving voters casting first, second and third choices (defeated 2-9 on 2-27-78). Prevailing: Lau, Feinstein, Molinari, Hutch, Gonzales, White, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

## VICTORIES

**Halfway House for Drug Addicts** (passed 9-2 on 1-16-78). Dissenting: Dolson, Kopp.

**Mental Health Coordinator for Gays** (passed 10-1 on 1-23-78). Dissenting: Dolson.

**Four-Lane Upper Market Street** (passed 9-2 on 1-30-78). Dissenting: Gonzales, Kopp.

**Lyon-Martin, Certificate of Honor** (passed 8-2 on 2-6-78). Dissenting: Dolson, Kopp. Absent: Gonzales.

**Kopp Amendment to disallow mayoral appointment of Manpower Planning Council director** (defeated 5-6 on 2-27-78). Dissenting from prevailing position: Feinstein, Hutch, Dolson, Kopp, Pelosi.

**Firefighters' Shorter Hours** submitted to voters (passed 6-4 on 3-6-78). Dissenting: Feinstein, Gonzales, Dolson, Kopp. Absent: Pelosi.

**Affirmative Action in Police/Fire** submitted to voters (passed 6-4 on 3-6-78). Dissenting: Feinstein, White, Dolson, Kopp. Absent: Pelosi.

**Youth Campus for emotionally disturbed** (passed 6-5 on 3-13-78). Dissenting: Dolson, Feinstein, Kopp, Molinari, White.

**District Offices for Supervisors**, killed by referring to committee (passed 11-0 on 3-13-78).

**Human Rights Ordinance** (passed 10-1 on 3-20-78). Dissenting: White.

**Salary Ordinance**, original debate on increases for top executives (defeated 3-6 on 3-23-78). Dissenting from prevailing position: Lau, Gonzales, Pelosi. Absent: Feinstein, Dolson.

Milk is beginning to receive less news coverage referring to his homosexuality, and Silver is no longer referred to as the Supervisor who is "an unwed mother." However, one City Hall reporter continues to report that Milk is "an avowed homosexual," prompting Milk to say that he is considering changing his first name to "Avowed."

Milk will be up for re-election in 1979, while Silver does not have to think about re-election until 1981.

Supervisor Milk was joined in his votes by other Supervisors. He received substantial support from Silver (80%), Lau (75%), Molinari (70%), and Hutch (62.5%) and a mixed 50% support from White and Pelosi. He received less support from Gonzales (42.1%) and Feinstein (38.8%). Those substantially disagreeing with Milk's positions were Kopp (30%) and Dolson (26.3%).

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# The Gay Parade

The Big Parade will be on Sunday, June 25, and plans are well underway to make it and Gay Freedom Week, June 17-25, more spectacular than ever. Last year the Gay Parade and Celebration drew over 400,000 participants.

The large Gay Freedom Day Committee, under Céleste Newbrough, Chris Perry and Pricilla Alexander, has been meeting for several months and plans are taking shape.

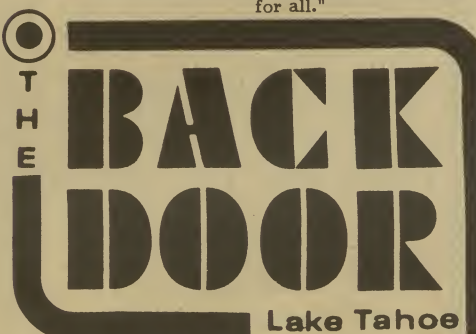
This year's event has "Come Out With Joy, Speak Out For Justice" as its theme. Rodger Brooks, who proposed the theme, says, "A year after the devastating vote in Miami, we will mark a year of intense activity by the SF Gay community. Lesbians and Gay men will come from all over this country to express pride in the diversity of our lifestyle, our history, and our commitment to human and civil rights for all."

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Funding the parade has become a major undertaking of the Committee because of the great expense in planning, renting stage and sound equipment, and publishing materials. One paid staff person will assist with the final development of the large event.

A donation of \$10,000 has come from the city's Hotel and Convention Fund and \$1,000 has been received from the Save Our Human Rights (SOHR) organization. Other groups are asked to contribute or plan fund-raisers to assist the parade committee. Individuals may contribute by addressing checks to Gay Freedom Day Committee, 330 Grove Street.

Three parade routes will be considered at the April 2 meeting of the committee at 330 Grove Street. The public is invited. The three routes being considered are:

1. Civic Center to Golden Gate Park, with the marchers assembling in the Civic Center and walking via Grove, Franklin, Arguello, to JFK Drive (through the tunnel) to Speedway Meadows, site of the Celebration.
2. Downtown to Civic Center, assembling at Main & Howard and marching via Market to Post, Polk to Civic Center, site of the Celebration.
3. Downtown to Civic Center, assembling at Main & Howard and marching to Market, Market to UN Plaza to Civic Center. (Same as Plan 2 but with entrance to Civic Center at the new U.N. Plaza.)

## Elaine Noble Enters Race for U.S. Senate

BOSTON - Elaine Noble, Lesbian state representative from Massachusetts, announced that she is in the U.S. Senate race to defeat incumbent Republican Edward Brooke. Her first challenge will be to win the statewide Democratic primary election on September 19.

Noble's immediate problem is to raise money to overcome Brooke's large war chest.

The decision by activist Noble came after she decided not to oppose her longtime friend, Rep. Barney Frank, whose state district was merged with Noble's.

Controversy has arisen lately around Noble as a number of Boston Gay activists assert that she has moved out of the liberal ranks and become more conservative in her attempt to form a larger constituency and, as Noble sees it, become more realistic about passing legislation.

## BACABI "Recruits" and Educates for Anti-Briggs Drive

Assemblyman Art Agnos and Supervisor Harvey Milk have offered two methods — organization and education — to defeat the anti-Gay-teacher initiative which may qualify in four weeks for the November ballot.

Both officials dealt with complaints that Gay people are largely talking to themselves in denouncing the measure sponsored by state Sen. John Briggs (R - Fullerton) — as in the Speakout March 17 of the Bay Area Committee Against the Briggs Initiative (BACABI). The Speakout drew 300 participants.

Milk told that audience, "I am here to recruit you." Creating an irony in the Briggs/Bryant "recruitment" charge, Milk illustrated that internal work is incomplete in rallying Gay resources to stop Briggs. "There are more people lined up for an Elizabeth Taylor movie at the Castro Theater than are here tonight," he said.

Meanwhile, Agnos, originally scheduled for the San Francisco event, was addressing instead an audience in Orange County about the danger the Briggs Initiative poses to all civil liberties. Thus a non-Gay shouldered the immense educational task required in the state's conservative areas to defeat the measure.

Human Rights Commissioner Enola Maxwell expressed fatigue to the BACABI audience for having to

gather once more to uphold human rights. "If the constitution didn't say liberty and justice for all, we could be at home resting, because we would know it's liberty and justice for a few... Injustice is profitable for some people. I suppose that's why they work so hard at it."

David Fishlow, local executive for the American Civil Liberties Union, said the Briggs Initiative "is not a straight vs. Gay issue. If we want teachers to improve kids' minds, they must know what freedom is. If they can be thrown out, they can't do the job that must be done."

The Rev. David Rankin of the First Unitarian Church accused the anti-Gay forces of using "a mask of religion to hide their hatred and bigotry."

Monsignor James Flynn, chair of the Archdiocese's Commission on Social Justice, said he makes no apology for where the church has been on homosexuality. Nevertheless, "Catholics have among them biased, prejudiced, ill-informed people as do other segments of our society." But with Briggs, "we are talking about traditional Catholic morality regarding the rights of people, and homosexuals should not suffer from prejudice against their basic human rights."

Arnold Townsend of the Western Addition Project Area Committee (WAPAC) endorsed BACABI because "I look

## NGTF Seeks Media Discrimination Cases

NEW YORK - A survey is being conducted by the National Gay Task Force to determine if there has been extensive discrimination against Gay people in radio and television. The material will be used in current negotiations with federal officials as to the treatment of Gay people in broadcasting. Specific cases are needed immediately. NGTF is asking these questions:

1. Do you know of any Gays in broadcasting who can attest to the fact that they've experienced job discrimination in broadcasting, or who can attest to living in fear of losing their jobs? Please ask such persons to contact us.

2. Have Gay groups in your area asked to be included in "Community Ascertainment" surveys and BEEN REFUSED?

3. Have broadcasters in your area failed to make an effort to contact and interview leaders of the Gay community to assess the problems, needs and interests of Gay people? (as part of "community ascertainment")

4. Has your group (or any other Gay group in your area) tried to get a Public Service Announcement on the air, with a Gay theme, and BEEN REFUSED?

Readers with any answers to these questions are urged to contact Ginny Vida, Media Director, NGTF, 80 Fifth Avenue, NYC 10011. Vida may also be contacted at (212) 741-1010 (10-6 weekdays) or at (212) 989-7008 (evenings and weekends).



at who's on the other side, and there is every bigot of any renown in the state of California." He called on Gays to join a coalition "to fight our common enemies" and asked for help to defeat unemployment among Black youth.

Lee Brightman of the American Indian Movement contended, "Homosexuals have always had a place in American Indian society. We've always accepted them."

Sylvia Weinstein of the National Organization for Women (NOW) declared, "The Briggs Initiative is designed to make students spies on teachers" and thus would "demoralize the whole school system."

Josette Mondanaro, referring to a letter Gov. Jerry Brown used as a pretext to fire her as a state health director, quipped, "I think of swearing when I think about the Briggs Initiative." Then she was serious: "To put obscene words above obscene actions is to show a moral bankruptcy on the part of this government." ... B.P.

## Nepon Loses, Milk Campaigns in Chicago

CHICAGO - Gary Nepon has lost his bid to become a member of the Illinois House of Representatives. The upfront Gay candidate sought an Independent Democratic seat in the 13th District.

Danny O'Brien (23,000), Jesse White (25,000) and the incumbent (19,000) placed over Nepon (5,000). Local Chicago Gay activists rallied together in support of Nepon, who became a symbol of political Gay power in this city.

Harvey Milk, SF Supervisor, flew to Chicago to speak at a Nepon fund-raiser. He spoke at a benefit dinner that "A victory for Gay liberation is a victory for all," and joked, "In Gay softball, we have four strikes before you're out."

Milk told the Chicagoans, "I speak out and it does NOT hurt the Gay movement. I was not supported by the self-appointed Gay leaders in San Francisco, but I won anyway. If one person has the courage to stick his/her neck out on the line, then he/she will be criticized from within."

"People are more than just buildings. I've come here tonight because I'm proud of myself, and I'm proud of Gary Nepon. People need hope."

Although Nepon's loss was substantial statistically, many local activists were pleased that his candidacy rallied Gay people to a political cause.

## Fired Gay Teacher Speaks Out in SF

James Gaylord, former Tacoma high school teacher, has been visiting in the San Francisco area to further explain his position on Gay teachers and to speak out against the Briggs Initiative. He told a press conference at the Board of Education building that the U.S. Supreme Court decision which allowed his dismissal as a teacher was unjust.

Gaylord said that the injustice was that after 13 years of teaching he was denied his professional standing merely because of his status. He was never accused of any illegal act. He was guilty of admitting that he was Gay. He did this only after he was approached by an administrator on the subject.

A former Tacoma High student had a mental breakdown and while in the hospital he discussed his homosexuality with a police officer. During the conversation, the student revealed Gaylord's name and said that he "knew" THAT teacher was Gay. (Gaylord will not reveal the name of the student because he feels empathy for the student in his present mental state.)

In a reference to the proposed Briggs Initiative, Gaylord said, "Let us hope that our democracy will work as it's supposed to, by drawing on the collective intelligence of people, rather than on a collective ignorance that places welfare and rights of minorities in the hands of a mob. That mob might be in the streets, but it's more likely to be marching to the polls to put someone else's rights on the executioner's block."

He cautioned that the passage of the Briggs Initiative would be "a backward step - which, if taken, could just be the beginning of a widespread retreat."

When asked about his future, the novice Gay activist said that he would like to continue to teach but that he does not like the thought of leaving Washington state. He currently holds a part-time position with a Gay group in Seattle.

## London "Gay News" Editor, Guilty

LONDON - Anti-Gay crusader Mary Whitehouse's suit against the local GAY NEWS continues to be effective. The Appeal Court here has dismissed an appeal attempt by its editor, Denis Lemon, against convictions for blasphemous libel.

The paper and its editor were convicted on July 12, 1977, of "unlawfully and wickedly" publishing a blasphemous libel of Christianity, a poem by English Litera-



Denis Lemon.

Photo by Bob Workman.

ture Professor James Kirkup entitled, "The Love That Dares to Speak Its Name." The poem depicted Christ as involved in specific Gay affectional acts. It was subsequently published in B.A.R. without a single complaint.

The court set aside the nine month suspended jail sentence of Lemon, but it permitted a 500 Pound fine on Lemon and a 1,000 Pound fine on the newspaper.

Whitehouse told the press that she was "tremendously glad that the jury's verdict was upheld. The jury represented the people of this country. It is a thing to be grateful for that what people feel has been vindicated by the Court of Appeal."

Many appeals and benefits have been conducted to assist GAY NEWS with its legal fees.

Lemon said that he was pleased to be relieved of the prison term but that the fine made "this a very sad day for freedom of speech."

Strauss.

A similar "Gay blue jeans" day was held recently on the U.C.-Berkeley campus with mixed results. Some Lesbians and Gay men wore Levi's. Many non-Gays did the same. A few straight men, disturbed by the event, switched to knit pants for the day.

Gay groups who wish to participate and take part in the national publicity on the event may contact NGTF, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

## Gay Day: April 14 Wear Blue Jeans!!

Campus Gay groups across the country are signing up with the National Gay Task Force for its National Gay Blue Jeans Day, April 14. The Friday event will publicize that people wearing blue jeans are identified as being Gay. It is NOT co-sponsored by Levi

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## Upfront Gay Lawyers OK'd by Florida Court

MIAMI - The Florida Supreme Court has ruled that an openly gay attorney may practice law in this state. The decision is considered a landmark ruling - possibly the first in the United States - since it declares that a nexus (a direct relationship) must be shown as to how an attorney's revelation that he/she is gay has any bearing on the ability to practice law.

The ruling was in the case of Robert Eimers, who in 1976 attempted to move his law practice from California to Florida. Someone in California informed the Florida Bar Association in advance that Eimers was gay. While the attorney did not deny that he was gay, he did not admit to any specific sex acts, which are illegal in Florida. The high court

indicated that had he admitted that he engaged in such acts its ruling might have been negative.

A spokesman for the American Bar Association stated that the subject of a person's sexual practices is seldom discussed in consideration for the Bar. In California the issue is resolved as the state bar accepted gay people in its ranks some years ago at the urging of Attorney Earl "Rick" Stokes.

Terry DeMeo, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney who represented Eimers, stated, "What happened in the past in Florida is that applicants simply lie about it if the question comes up because of blackmail or extortion. Too much was at stake, and they were not willing to risk careers to come out of the closet."

The new Florida ruling, DeMeo said, means that a homosexual will be considered in good moral standing un-

less it could be demonstrated otherwise - the same test of character given heterosexuals.

Considering the overwhelming 6-1 decision by Florida's highest court, it is questionable whether the Florida Bar would appeal.

## Anti-Gay Attack by San Diego Area Mayor

VISTA - The out-going mayor of this small "bedroom" retirement community has publicly branded gay people as "misfits" who are unworthy of civil rights. He was supported by the town council, which is now considering an ordinance which could put PLAYBOY magazine under the counter in newsstands.

The San Diego County Human Relations Commission had requested that Vista and 74 other towns in the county give their positions on gay rights. The commission is considering an extension of its scope to include gay people as legitimate complainants. Only nine cities responded to its survey.

"I will oppose any legislation which would suggest recognition of so-called 'gay rights' or add credence to that way of life," Mayor Tracey He added, "Please be advised that our little city is already happy and gay."

Orbee Mihalek, a council member, said that he was alarmed at the "decline of morality in this country, sending us in the same direction as the Roman Empire."

One of the fears expressed by council members was that up-front gay teachers would be hired under a liberal commission position on rights.

"Most of the people in San Diego have no problem with gay rights legislation," commission analyst Fred Tinkler reveals. A local survey revealed that 68% favored employment rights for gays.

Area clergy are generally favorable to gay rights, according to Tinkler, although not approving of the lifestyle. An exception is the San Diego Evangelical Association of Southern Baptists which

finances local campaigns to defeat pro-gay legislators.

Referring to the discussion of gay teachers, Tinkler said that probably most homosexual applicants would lie about their sexual preference. Although the San Diego School District does not ask "sexual preference" questions of prospective local teachers, it does ask such questions of out-of-county applicants. All prospective employees must fill out a health form that asks about sexual "tendencies."

\* \* \*

Vista recently has also been involved in an anti-pornography crusade. Some of its 30,000 citizens demanded that the town council ban a recent NEWSWEEK magazine which had a low-cleavage photo of actress Suzanne Somers on its cover.

The Vista Citizens for Decency said that sexually explicit magazines are being displayed next to candy counters where children congregate. It is asking the council to pass an ordinance which would put all magazines and newspapers under the counter if a partially or fully disrobed person is on the cover.

Brian Sesko, who heads the Decency group, said that "if people want the crimes in this town to go down, the rapes to go down, they've got to do some cleaning." He also believes that children see the "pornographic" magazine covers and that they "don't know what to do with certain stimulations. They can't talk about it at home, so they talk about it on the street."

B.A.R. has learned that the extensive concern over homosexuality and pornography by the Vista council created more than normal interest in that the town is primarily a "retirement village" for senior citizens.

## Activist Receives Back Pay in Houston Firing

HOUSTON - Gary Van Ooteghem, 36, was dismissed from his job as Assistant in the County Treasurer's office. He appealed. The reason he was fired, he claims, was that he had spoken out

for gay rights -- as a gay person -- at a County Commission hearing on a homosexual rights ordinance. That was in 1976.

Federal District Judge Ross Sterling has now re-instated Van Ooteghem and ordered the payment of 2 years back pay. The activist was receiving \$27,000 a year. He said that the fired employee had been denied freedom of speech under First Amendment guarantees.

Harris County Treasurer Hartsell Gray re-stated his case that the man's homosexuality was not the basis for the firing. He said, "We're going to appeal it. His homosexuality was irrelevant."

Van Ooteghem said he welcomed the prospect of appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans. He said, "We're hoping they're going to go ahead and appeal even though we won, because the higher it goes the more impact it will have on other gay people... You have a right to live your private life any way you want and it has no bearing on your business or professional life. I have a right to speak out."

Gray said, "Our policy in this office is clear. What you do in your private life is your business. But leave it at home... If an employee appears anywhere and says anything while on duty as a deputy county treasurer, he will do so with my prior permission or he will be setting himself up to be fired."

## Being Single Cannot Affect Auto Premiums - in M'chusetts

BOSTON - The marital status of an insured can no longer be considered in determining automobile insurance rates in Massachusetts. The State Insurance Commission has ruled that single people cannot be given higher rates than married people and that marital status may not be a subject of insurance company inquiries.

Forty witnesses testified at a commission hearing here over a 24-day period. Testimony included a statement from Tom Whelton of the Alliance of American Insurers, who said, "This change is contrary to the economic realities of the insurance business. It substitutes a system of uniform rates for the previous competitive rates." Whelton had contended that single people were more of a risk and thus should receive higher rates.

The decision also dropped company considerations based on sex and age. The only standard now permitted is driver performance.

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B.A.R.-SECTION 1 MARCH 30, 1978 PAGE 11



## CAROL RUTH SILVER

THE LANDLORD'S  
WINDFALL INITIATIVE  
OF 1978 (THE JARVIS  
INITIATIVE)

by Carol Ruth Silver

Election of District Supervisors should mean that supervisors would worry about the events in their own districts -- right? Nope.

Most pressing of all matters at the present time is the state constitutional initiative on the June ballot. This would give fat windfalls to landlords and commercial property owners.

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while destroying local city government, all in the name of property tax reform.

It sounds nice: roll back property taxes and forbid increases, so the little homeowner can get a decrease of thirty to forty percent in property tax. Problem, however: there is no requirement that this property tax break be passed along by the property owner to tenants of the property. And as is patently clear to all renters (and over 75% of San Franciscans are renters) no landlord is going to pass along those savings.

Then consider the commercial property owners: Bank of America, being one of our largest property owners and property taxpayers, will correlatively get one of the biggest tax reductions.

Against the above benefits of the Jarvis Amendment must be measured its evils.

What happens when

local government -- that means the City and County of San Francisco -- experiences a sharp decrease in revenues: A large portion, approximately 70%, of the San Francisco budget includes federal and state subvention. What does the property tax pay for? It pays all firemen. It pays all policemen. It supports the museums. It fixes non-highway streets and it maintains Golden Gate Park. It matches state and federal grants for public schools, the community college, arts and humanities. It pays for the public defender, the courts, the city attorney, the executive and legislative arms of local government.

If the Jarvis Initiative passes, these services stand fair to be cut in half. Or the State Legislature will come to the rescue with increased income taxes or sales taxes. These increased taxes will fall on landlords and renters alike, creating in some cases a double burden and in others a double benefit.

Property tax reform is important. Too important to use to give windfalls to a small segment of the population at the expense of the rest of us.

## Great Scavenger Hunt

The Council of Emperors is pleased to announce a benefit for Operation Concern -- the First Great Scavenger Hunt and Junque Round-up. This grand event will be coinciding with the C.M.C.'s Annual Junk Fair at Seaman's Hall on Sunday, April 30.

Entry fees are as follows: \$5 for single fee and \$10 for a team of two. Prizes will be awarded in both categories. The prizes include cash and fine merchandise.

The contest will start at Noon from various locations around the city. Where the contestants sign up is where they will start from.

A trophy will be awarded to the business with the most contestants. The contest will end at 4:30 at Oil Can Harry's; and at this time we will kick off the All Emperors Birthday Bash.

Look for entry forms at some of your favorite drinking and shopping spots.

## Politics & People

### The New Board -- A Closer Look

Wayne Friday

Nearly three months have passed since the Supervisors took office. From a Gay viewpoint, it is now clear who of the Board we can depend on and who we should keep an eye on.

Our best friends on the Board are Harvey Milk, Carol Ruth Silver, and probably John Molinari. Others who have shown their concern for those problems are Gordon Lau, Bob Gonzalez, and possibly Ella Hill Hutch. Also, usually there when we need him is Ron Pelosi, the Supervisor from the 11th District. Pelosi prefers not to rock the boat but is sensible and tries to keep everybody happy. Lee Dolson, the conservative Republican from District 9, seems to be a man who (though thought would be anti-Gay) wants to be educated on our problems and lifestyle. And when this process is completed, by whatever means is necessary, Dolson might turn out to be of help.

I have somewhat the same feeling about Dan White, the ex-cop/fireman from District 8. I look at White, however, as somewhat of a question mark. I was dismayed and annoyed that White (who I had been assured by some of his Gay friends was sympathetic to our cause) was the only member to vote against the new Gay rights ordinance last week.

White explained his "NO" vote: "A vast majority of people -- I'll use Roman Catholics, for example -- have very strong beliefs." With many Catholics in his district, White played politician instead of leader. I would like to ask Dan White what he would think if those rights he would withhold from Gays were taken away from Catholics. Recently White said that while he was in the service he learned to live with and understand the problems of all kinds of people, or something to that effect. Yet he leads people to think he believes in the "live and let live" theory, but when it comes down to the bottom line he can't vote for the same rights for homosexuals that he

would reserve for others. Oh, no, Mr. White, it is not enough to talk a good line to those Gays you have become acquainted with -- the real test comes when the voting comes, and in that department you failed -- and failed miserably.

The two remaining Supervisors are Quentin Kopp and Dianne Feinstein, and therein lies our problem. Although both voted for the recent Gay rights ordinance, they both figuratively held their noses while doing so -- especially Feinstein. I am so damned tired of listening to Dianne on her soapbox that I almost wish she had voted against the ordinance (as she wanted to) and spared us the morality lecture. Feinstein said, "The right of an individual to live his lifestyle the way he or she chooses can become offensive... the Gay community is going to have to face this; there is a need to set up some standards; I don't want San Francisco to set up a backlash. If this city becomes an 'anything goes' city, you can do your trip in the street place... it will be very, very hard."

Damn, Feinstein, what about the heterosexuals! Only last Sunday Herb Caen reported three naked girls (heterosexual?) getting on a Powell Street cable car -- a clear case of Feinstein's example of "you can do your trip in the street," yet to date I haven't read that Dianne has condemned that incident. But then I guess since they were straight, La Feinstein doesn't find that so offensive. Feinstein continued, "One of the unfortunate parts of San Francisco's liberalism has been the encouragement of sadism and masochism." Feinstein said that police have attributed 22 murders to these sex practices. She wondered whether a landlord, in abiding by the new law, would have to put up with this conduct. Well, again, the lady is either mistaken or a liar. I called Inspector Dave Toschi of Homicide after Feinstein made that statement and



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asked him if her information was correct. He said it "sounded a little high" to him but that he would have someone check the statistics and call me back. Lt. Jack Jordan later called and



DIANNE FEINSTEIN

said her figures were "way off." He said he had checked back as far as 1975 and the most Gay murders they could directly attribute to the S&M scene was four.

It is ironic that Feinstein has decided she doesn't need the support of the Gay community and has turned her back on that support slowly, but intentionally, over the past few years. When she first ran for the Board, she was popular with Gay voters; and during her first run for Mayor, Feinstein was beneficiary of a great many more Gay votes than Alioto.

She gave nearly the same spiel when the question of closing Polk Street came before the board last October. Feinstein can, when she wants to, charm the birds out of the trees -- and when in the company of Gay people, often does just that. She has begun to show her true stripes, however, and the Gay community cannot consider Dianne Feinstein a friend any longer.

Quentin Kopp is another who made friends in the Gay community but has chosen to forsake them. Many times over the past couple of years, I have spent hours defending my support of Kopp. I think he is a brilliant politician, and therein may be the problem. He is such a smart political animal, and he wants to be Mayor so desperately, that the Gay community may suffer for it. I still don't believe Quentin Kopp is anti-Gay, but he is running for Mayor and he must go after that redneck vote. That means giving up the Gay vote. If that is the road he wants to take, so be it. I have always liked the man, but I cannot ignore what has happened.

Consequently, I feel the same way about Kopp as I do about Feinstein: the Gay community can call neither of them friends any longer.

## POLITICS & POKER...

Supervisor John Molinari addressed the Tavern Guild meeting last Tuesday at the Cloud 7... many Gays joining Ollie Marie-Victoire's campaign for Superior Court (headquarters at 543-0271)... Republican Dixon Arnet expected to run strong against the scandal-scarred Comptroller Ken Cory this fall... "Like father, like son": Bob Mendelsohn, now on the federal payroll at something like \$155 per day, has his 18 year old son on a federally-funded CETA job at \$33 per day... San Jose's anti-Gay councilman, Dave Runyon, was convicted in a recent trial of fighting with the cops and could get a year in the clink (Runyon has a history of fighting the cops)... while the GOP was holding their State Convention in Democratic S.F., the Calif. Demo Council was meeting in Republican San Diego -- there was no fist fight between Gays and Blacks at that San Diego conference as recently reported by Herb Caen. Thanks for printing subversive, untrue news...

Gary Nepon, an up-front Gay candidate, came close to winning in last Tuesday's Illinois primary... Terence O'Flaherty's recent column on "Anita & Bob & Russ (KGO) & God" is a classic... perennial candidate Bob Hagen will run for County Demo Committee -- Hagen received a grand total of 47 votes when he ran for Supe... newpersons Marilyn Baker and Spencer Roberts made a fool out of John Briggs on a recent "NEWS-MAKER" program... S.F. friends of Dick Hongisto expect him to return to this city soon... Barry King hit with a big fine from the voter registrar's office...

Harvey Milk chosen to nominate Burt Pines at recent CDC convention... both Leo McCarthy and Art Agnos have primary opposition this June, while the brothers Burton escaped a primary fight after all... Oakland Assemblyman John Miller appointed to the Court of Appeals... during the recent "Gay Pride Week" debate in San Jose, one candidate for City Council (Andrew Diaz) said of Gays, "If I had my way, I'd put them all up against the wall"... most City Hall observers think it is a foregone conclusion that Dianne Feinstein will endorse Quentin Kopp for Mayor...

What the hell is Tax Collector Thad Brown screaming racial bias about because of his recent suspension -- the guy had to be either blind or stupid if millions were being stolen from his department without him at least being suspicious...

Wayne Friday

## Hawaiian Teacher Denied Maui Position

MAUI - Arnie Sciuolo, a Community College teacher on the island of Maui, has been denied a position on the list of lecturers in English by the Language Division of Maui Community College solely on the basis of his sexual preference.

According to Sciuolo, he was advised by a friend that his name had been dropped from the hiring pool list from which qualified lecturers are selected. He received no notification of the deletion.

College Provost Sanae Moikeha and the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii are named as co-defendants in a complaint filed in U.S. District Court by Sciuolo.

Sciuolo claims that he is being denied equal employment by order of Moikeha who he says took him off the list "solely on the basis of sexual preference." Moikeha is alleged to have told a Language Arts Division administrator that she did not want homosexuals teaching at the college. She said she

was making the decision because of her religious conviction (Mormon). The administrator said he would have chosen Sciuolo to lecture if he had not been removed from the list according to The Paper, the Hawaiian Gay newspaper.

There were no complaints about Sciuolo's teaching ability. He has a B.S. from Duquesne University and Masters degrees from Illinois State and the University of Hawaii. Sciuolo is presently teaching at a small private school on Maui.

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## Milk Forum

### The Jarvis-Gann Initiative

by Harvey Milk

#### JARVIS-RACIST-GANN

Gay people all over the nation are asking for an end to all discrimination against Gay people. Though not at the rate we would like to see, it is happening. Witness the overwhelming favorable vote (10-1) of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. We are also seeing minority leader after minority leader come over to our side. Interesting is the comparison between our governor and Lt. governor. One, a white male, is hesitant, at best, to speak out for Gay rights. The other, a Black male, makes definitive statements of support. The coalition of minorities — including the feminist and Gay movements — are starting to join on all issues that affect anyone of the coalition. More and more are coming to see that we MUST stick together.

If Jarvis-Gann passes this June, in San Francisco alone a strong possibility is that some 4,500 to 6,500 people will be laid off. At first, to the fiscal conservatives, that sounds great... but even they must start to understand the fiscal impact that it will have upon them. But more important is just who will be laid off. It will be the minorities in many cases. Since the minorities have only recently made inroads into city hiring, in many slots they will be the first to go. Already, the minorities do not make up, in city jobs, anywhere near the percentage they should. Thus their recent gains will be nullified. It thus has a strong racist thrust. The Gay community should fully understand that concept and should put aside any other feelings about this initiative. Gay people should vote solidly against it — just as we want our sisters and brothers in all minorities to vote for our rights. If we are ever to gain our rights, we must also fight for the other minorities. It cannot be a one-way street.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL BLOW

After years of struggle to gain a foothold in decent city jobs, to be put out could be a crushing blow to many minorities. Would they ever again accept the "establishment" reaching out to them? Would you blame them if they looked upon all government as a vehicle to suppress their rights and goals? Is it not strange that, after the establishment has gotten their plums and the minorities and women are starting to catch up, that all of a

sudden government is now spending too much? As long as government was spending on golf courses, parks, great office buildings, great pensions and so forth, all was fine. Just as soon as the government started to get into spending money on abortions, child care, social problems, health needs, housing for the elderly, then all of a sudden those who have had it so good for so long feel that the government is spending too much! Jarvis-Gann is an extension of the bigots' thinking.

#### FISCAL CONSERVATIVES

To all the fiscal conservatives who feel that the government is indeed spending too much — so we lay off thousands, not only here, but in county after county. What happens to those laid off and, especially, the minorities? Will industry and commerce hire them? Their outlook for getting decent jobs is bleak. Many will go on unemployment and/or welfare. Their purchasing power dries up. The secondary effect will be to see those businesses that are sustained by many city and county workers caught in a crunch. The snowball effect starts and other businesses will have to cut back or close. Again, more people — this time, non-governmental workers — will be put out of work. The effects will work their way up to larger businesses.

The result: a fewer people working, a slower economy, and a higher welfare and unemployment outlay. The fiscal conservatives will end up paying higher taxes to cover not only the increased welfare costs, but for the fact that fewer people are working to meet those increased payments. The irony is that those who look to Jarvis-Gann as a way of saving will end up paying higher taxes to cover the increased outlays. And their OWN income may be lower on top of it.

Jarvis-Gann makes little sense on any level. It has gotten to where it is due to the unresponsiveness of our state government to put through real tax reform. All Sacramento had to do was close the tax loopholes, and we would have gotten that relief.

Jarvis-Gann is not the answer. There is little justification for it except if you are racist, misinformed or a revolutionary who wants to bring about chaos.

## SF Gay Center — One More Reprive

Harvey Milk and Carol Ruth Silver won a battle this week, but prospects are dim for a successful crusade to save the Gay Community Center at 330 Grove Street.

Before the Board of Supervisors was a question that had the effect of letting demolition proceed. Supervisor Lee Dolson provided a Milk-Silver motion to refer to committee its sixth vote, with the provision that the item be back before the full Board within 30 days. That gave Milk a chance to certify whether funds are available, as claimed, to begin construction of the Performing Arts Center. A parking garage, proposed for the Gay Community Center site, is not permitted under past Board directives unless the PAC is a certainty.

Milk wants the PAC garage built at Golden Gate and Van Ness, which he says would require only 97 paces and 2½ minutes more walking time than the current proposal. But Margaret Brady of the Parking Authority replied that a report authorized by PAC promoters had concluded that arts enthusiasts would not walk more than two blocks. John Molinari expressed astonishment that "civic-minded promoters" would ignore a potentially cheaper alternative because of 97 paces.

Bob Gonzales blasted the 97 paces as nothing more than "the latest stumbling block" devised by the PAC opponents... B.P.

## Toklas Presents Candidates

Voters have a chance to see candidates in the June election for the first time at the Alice B. Toklas Club candidates night, Wednesday, April 5, 7:00pm at 156 Lombard St., #14.

Nearly the entire field of hopefuls for the Democratic County Central Committee and local judgeships are expected. Toklas endorses for those offices and states nominations in the June 6 primary at its meeting of April 10 at 50 Fell Street.

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## Open Notebook

### Sugar-Coated Insults

by Jack Warner

There was a time, not so long ago, when Gay people were flattered by any mention of Gay doings in the public press. The straight world took so little notice of us that we were delighted to discover that our existence was acknowledged, and even a put-down in a gossip column made us giggle with appreciation. Nowadays we don't need to be so self-conscious, so eager for any condescending nod in our direction. Time has altered things, and we have changed.

Or have we? The condescending nods continue, and it looks to me as if we go right on acting pleased that we are thought to be newsworthy. The newspapers periodically treat us to feature articles that often run to a full page and include pictures, that quote Gay people and so look authentic — and we fail to notice that they are full of unsubstantiated speculation and innuendo, that they end up presenting only a straight viewpoint and perpetuate prejudice.

The most common trick is to give us a spread about women entertainers and their Gay followers. This subject seems to have a special fascination for newspaper editors — it doesn't fit their notion that Gay men hate women. There was another of these spreads in the "Chronicle" on March 13, pleasantly sugar-coated but with a full quota of insults nonetheless.

For example, there's a statement by Grover Sales: "You'll never find jazz in a Gay's collection except in the most peripheral way." The reason? Jazz, Sales says, is "super macho" — the implication being that Gay men can't therefore identify with it because they just aren't masculine enough. This is an effective put-down because it reinforces the straight belief that Gay men are somehow part female. It also conveniently overlooks the fact that many women are dedicated jazz fans. But the real problem here is that Sales offers no evidence to back up his statement. How does he know that Gay men don't own jazz records? Has he made a survey? I suspect that his prejudice has made him leap to an unwarranted conclusion: he takes a proprietary interest in jazz and doesn't want it sullied with homosexual interest. Obviously he has also failed to observe something I know from my own experience, that

there are male jazz musicians who are Gay. But, of course, they don't fit into a "super macho" image as long as "super macho" means only heterosexual.

There's also the humbug attributed to Zohn Artman, who is identified as "a Gay who is a kingpin in the Bill Graham organization." The idea is that Gay men have plenty of money to spend on entertainment because they "do not have families to support or educate." This claim, of course, can underscore the straight belief that Gay people are irresponsible because they don't have children. It must have escaped Artman's notice that Gay people, unattached or otherwise, are legally considered to be single and therefore must pay more taxes than a good many straight people do. Gay people may or may not raise children (some do), but they help to educate the children of straight people through the school taxes. Gay people rarely complain about this matter, but it's a fact of our lives.

Is it true, in any case, that Gay people have more money for entertainment than straight people have? It looks to me as if there is as large a percentage of poor Gay people as poor straight people, and they suffer just as much from their poverty as anyone else. Try making this claim to Gay people who can't find jobs or who are denied promotion because they don't fit into some personnel officer's notion of what constitutes "normal" family status. Surely there are a good many Gay people who don't spend much money on entertainment because they simply can't afford it.

\* \* \*  
These newspaper articles seem harmless enough with their sugar-coating, but when the sugar-coating is peeled away, the insults remain. The articles are insulting because they transform superficial observation of a handful of Gay people into unsubstantiated assertion about Gay people in general. I think we would do well to read these articles carefully. I think we also ought to be careful what we say to interviewers for the public print. Articles that appear in the straight press are designed for straight readers, and they are meant to reinforce the prejudices of those straight readers. Experience should teach us to be more cautious.

What these articles really tell us is that straight people want to be the ones to define and describe and explain us. This is the means by which they go on controlling our lives. If we allow ourselves to be flattered by publicity and pay no attention to what that publicity is really saying, we contribute to our own persecution.

### Anita: Crusade Cuts Income

Anita Bryant received \$5,000 from her recent appearance in Toronto and close to \$15,000 for a Tucson rally, but this income went to her "Protect America's Children" campaign. How much money she receives in turn from PAC is unknown.

The singer/activist says she has lost all of her non-religious bookings. The prime reason: "Too controversial." At press conferences she blames the "militant homosexuals," saying that "they" have hurt her and her family.

Bob Greene, Bryant's manager/husband has stated that there has been talk of placing their 23-room mansion (with pool and grounds) in Miami Beach up for sale. He believes that their lifestyle must be reduced to live within a more meager income.

Last year, Bryant was booked for 80 non-religious singing engagements at fairs and corporate meetings. She has no such bookings this year and sings, instead, at religious association meetings and revivals, often taking her income from a pre-arranged percentage of the collections.

Bryant recently told a New York Times writer, "We were at the top of the list. Now we'll take what we can and praise the Lord for changing our direction. But I'll admit, this was a struggle for me, not to get bitter."

At her most recent appearance in San Antonio, Texas, Bryant drew an enthusiastic crowd of 3,500. The Times commented that it was questionable as to how many had come to receive religious inspiration and how many had attended just to see a national personality.

Mass mailings from her Protect America's Children plead for contributions over \$25 to "continue my work" with no specifics as to what "work" is indicated. She also is receiving fees that she says she regrets: "I never used to charge religious groups. It hurts me to do it now."

Bryant's largest source of income is the Florida Citizens Commission which uses her in its orange juice commercials. Although her OJ income has remained stable, the Commission

has added new stars to their commercials — an apparent move to phase out Bryant. Executives of the Commission have stated that Bryant is less effective today because she is seen as the "anti-homosexual crusader" rather than "the sunshine girl." . . . G.M.

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# Wander Lust

## Taipei

by A. Marc Leventhal

Taipei is not a Gay city. The Chinese there do not seem to be interested in sex. Nonetheless, Taiwan should not be excluded from an Orient itinerary.

The China Airline flight, non-stop to Taipei, was nearly filled. I was one of a handful of

non-Orientals traveling, and was fortunate to sit in the Blue Skies section of the plane reserved primarily for VIP's, businessmen, and NO children. Since the flight takes over 13 hours, Blue Skies was a welcome haven. The plane, a 747SP, flies at higher altitude than normal, and



Chinese Opera is a must in Taipei.

passengers dehydrate easily. But the free drinks flowed abundantly. Two films helped pass the time, and efficient but not spectacular meal service kept one satisfied. Even though we departed San Francisco at 2:30 in the afternoon, it was light for over the next ten hours or so... playing havoc with the body to arrive 8:00pm local time while it is 4:00am San Francisco time.

I checked into the Grand Hotel and was impressed. It lives up to its name. From the outside it looks like a giant Chinese temple. Inside, an enormous lobby with hand-carved ceiling, a super grand staircase. Elegant bedrooms and oversize bathrooms. Really GRAND! My balcony overlooked the hills which were teeming with people between dawn and 8:30am. I walked into this wooded hillside before dawn one morning, winding my way up strange trails, until I came to a temple where the Chinese were stopping off to say their prayers; then further on up into the dense shrubbery where I began to hear grunts, shouts, and other strange noises. In the dim dawn I began to see figures slowly moving in unusual positions. As the early morning brightened, I began to see more clearly the citizens of Taipei "working out" in the hills. They come here before going to work to practice their shadow boxing, calisthenics, and shuttlecock. Hundreds of little courts are cut into the hillside where they come out early in the day to exercise.

As for the other hotels in Taipei: the Gay

guidebooks list the Paradise Hotel, but I could not find it. The bars and lobbies at most major hotels, such as the Grand, the President, Taipei Hilton, and the Ambassador, as in most cities, will have the occasional interested businessman or horny tourist. A rather plain hotel, Roma, caters to the U.S. military and may be worth checking out. New Park may well be a rewarding exploration.

\* \* \*

### Bargain shopping is

what the Orient is all about. But first window-shop at home at Cost Plus and camera, watch and jewelry shops and make notes of some items and prices that you want. Once in Taipei, window shop again at the Government handicraft shops and department stores. These shops do not bargain. Then you are better prepared for bargaining over prices in all the other shops in town.

Taiwan is a small island, and the population of the major city, Taipei, is about 2 million. Taxis are probably the cheapest in the world, so getting around is no problem. Sight-seeing should include a visit to the National Palace Museum to see treasures of jade and scroll painting. Do not miss the exquisite five-panel painting, One Hundred Stallions, by Lang Shih-Ning (Giuseppe Castiglione).

Restaurant recommendation: The Oriental dining room at the Grand Hotel. The Hama Restaurant for Mongolian barbecue or Kobe beef — sensational and

conveniently located near the President Hotel.

The climate is subtropical, and although the average temperature is in the 70's, it was in the high 50's when I was there in February. Rain is frequent in all seasons, and summer wear is best from April through November.

\* \* \*

After the sexual blabs of Taipei, I looked forward to the delights of Bangkok...

## Right Wing Plagues Pro-Gay Republican

Rep. John B. Anderson (R - Illinois) has been under constant attack by the political Right since he supported the right of Gay people to be included in the 1977 legal aid bill. When he voted against an amendment by Rep. Larry McDonald to deny poor Gays free legal aid, Anderson was placed on the lists of Richard A. Viguerie's computers. McDonald is a John Birch Society member, supported by Coors family members.

Viguerie sends out millions of pieces of mail each year via a computerized system that alerts the Right to his causes. (A recent mailing from Anita Bryant indicates that she may now be paying to use Viguerie's lists. Governor George Wallace has raised millions of dollars with Viguerie's mailings.)

Anderson is Chair of the House Republican Conference and is seeking re-election in Illinois. For two months he has been the target of a blizzard of letters from Viguerie's mail service in Falls Church, Va. They tell his constituents that he is "too liberal" and supports homosexual activists.

When a roll call vote was demanded on the McDonald amendment, many legislators ran out the side door instead of committing themselves. Anderson stayed. Since then he has been harassed daily by the Right.

"It hurts," Anderson told the Associated Press. "There is no question that it hurts."

The third ranking Republican won the March 21 primary against Rev. Don Lyon, a heavily financed fundamentalist supported by the Right across the country. He won handily... 43,000 to 27,000. He said, "I hope that my victory will give encouragement to moderates in my own party to stand up against the forces of the Right."



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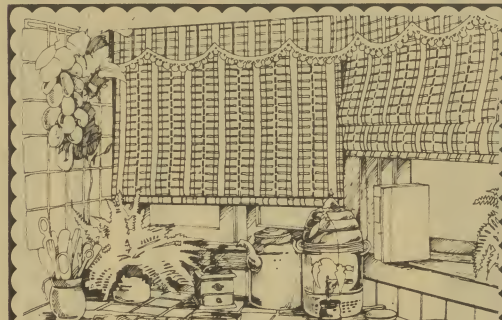
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## The Men in My Life

### The Early Innessential Alice

by Paul-Francis Hartman

We tend to picture Alice B. Toklas as the full-blown, middle-aged companion of her private genius, Gertrude Stein. Long thought of as the famous Gertrude's silent shadow, secretary and hostess (the image as Alice painted it), Miss Toklas has come to be recognized as the lover/wife who MADE Miss Stein the star she deservedly became.

After four days of smoke and soot and no water and everyone running about chicken headless — it was finally time to get away.

The maiden ladies had tales to tell when they got to Paris ... where Gertrude was waiting and Alice was willing. In time, it was Alice who came upon "rose is a rose is a rose."



Miss Alice Toklas of 922 O'Farrell St.

Alice lived for her in life, and after the great one's death in 1946, she lived on and only to protect and polish the reputation — the legend. Alice was the perfect mistress — and might well have been the perfect master.

Alice was past thirty when in a Fiesole summer's garden she consented to be Gertrude's wife. And 30 of those first 31 years Alice spent in San Francisco. In and around what was respectable San Francisco Alice twiddled those first thirty years ... waiting for life to begin tomorrow. Once she went to Oakland. And once she wrote, "It was Papa who said that I'd been born a day too late and had never found a way to catch up."

In 1906 the city had shaken itself down and burned, and on Clay Street Alice buried the family silver in the back yard. Harriet Levy, Alice's best friend and next door neighbor, took the ferry to Sausalito. Alice went to Oakland to take a bath.

And the gypsy-looking Jewess made it stick.

\* \* \*

She was born to Ferdinand and Emma Levinsky Toklas April 30, 1877, in her grandfather's house at 922 O'Farrell Street. In the next day's San Francisco Chronicle, a modest announcement reported the birth of Alice Babette.

Her mother's family (German/Jews who had joined the 49'ers) had set up make-shift general stores in Jackson, Sutter Creek and Dry Town. The Levinskys soon owned a flourishing mine and a booming dry goods business. From the profits they moved to San Francisco and lived once again in bourgeois respectability.

Alice's father left Poland in 1865 for New York. A few years later he went West, stopped in San Francisco long enough to meet and marry the 19 year old Emma Levinsky. He then began his own mercantile firm in Seattle. It too prospered, and he

shuttled back and forth from San Francisco, where Emma and Alice remained.

Alice led, as she was apt to repeat later, a gently bred existence. When she was old enough the Toklases sought out suitable private schools. They selected the best and the most progressive: first Miss West's School for Girls on Van Ness Avenue and later Miss Lake's. A baby brother, Clarence, arrived in 1887.

In 1890 the Toklases moved to Seattle and they lived among the socially distinguished and affluent. Alice attended Mt. Rainier Seminary and in 1893 entered the music conservatory at the University of Washington. Alice had hope of becoming a concert pianist.

The Toklas' 5-story brick department store was referred to as the "busiest and most profitable in the northwest." The idyll ended when Alice's mother developed cancer, and her father returned the family to San Francisco, to a house at 2300 California Street.

Alice's formal education ended; at eighteen she was required to keep house, caring for her father and brother, tending her dying mother.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

To be continued. . .

## San Francisco Venereal Disease Control Program

### V.D. FACT SHEET — 1978

\* San Francisco's rate of infectious syphilis in 1977 ranked "Number 1" among cities with populations over 200,000! We ranked 3rd in gonorrhea rates!

\* In 1978, 1 of every 4 persons in the city between the ages of 15 and 44 will catch syphilis or gonorrhea, and 4 of every 5 will be men!

\* Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's) are on the rise in San Francisco. Hepatitis, Herpes II, Amoebiasis, Non-Gonococcal Urethritis and Venereal Warts are just some of the more than two dozen diseases and infections now classified as STD's.

\* Last year, an average of 290 patients per day were seen at San Francisco City Clinic, the city's only full-time venereal disease treatment facility.

\* Our casefinding staff interviewed 13,283 infected patients and conducted 13,520 investigations; 2,607 contacts were examined, found infected and were treated. An additional 7,650 contacts were preventively treated and did not develop infections.

\* SAN FRANCISCO CITY CLINIC is located at 250 4th Street between Howard and Folsom Streets. Clinic Hours: Monday and Thursday, 9:30 to 6:00pm; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00 to 4:00pm.

\* The Venereal Disease Information Center operates 24 hours a day. From 9:00 to 5:00pm, staff is available to answer questions from the public. After 5:00pm, taped messages on different STD's can be heard. Messages change weekly. Remember, "Health and Love Need Care."

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# SOUTH-BAY CHRONICLE

SUPPLEMENT OF THE BAY AREA REPORTER/GENE EARL REPRESENTATIVE 861-5019

VOL. 8 NO. 7 MARCH 30, 1978

NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 5

NEXT ISSUE OUT: APRIL 13

## San Jose "Gay Week" Controversy Continues

by Rosalie Nichols

Repercussions from the Gay Week controversy in San Jose continue to be felt by both the Gay community and the community at large, and the issue will undoubtedly influence local elections.

As reported in the SOUTH BAY CHRONICLE, the Gay Pride Week resolution originally adopted by the City Council in February was rescinded on March 14, and a substitute resolution for a Gay Human Rights Week was adopted in its place.

The title change was suggested by Councilman Al Garza, following assurances from fundamentalist church leaders that Gay human rights were not in question and that the word "Pride" was the source of their objections. Garza obtained support for the substitute resolution from Mayor Hayes, Vice-Mayor Suzanne Wilson, and Councilman Jim Self in a conference shortly before the council meeting.

Reverend Stan Roberts, minister of MCC, was contacted by the Mayor's office and gave his personal approval to the change. Unfortunately, due to time limitations, other members of the Gay community were left unaware of the plan to introduce a substitute resolution, and many walked out in anger when the Gay Pride Week resolution was rescinded and were not in the council chambers when Councilman Garza introduced the Gay Human Rights Week resolution.

Feedback from Gays and Lesbians is that almost all are happy with the change to Gay Human Rights Week, and many feel it is an improvement over Gay Pride.

The conservative fundamentalists are not happy, however, and hooted disapproval when the Gay Human Rights Week resolution passed after an unsuccessful attempt to remove the word "Gay" from the resolution. It has become apparent that our opponents object not only to Gay Pride, but to any sort of resolution favoring human rights for Gay people.

Rick Harrington of the Christian Citizens Against Gay Human Rights Week has vowed to force a recall of all four councilpersons who voted for the resolution. Letters and telephone calls are still needed from Gays and our allies, as our organized opposition has bombarded City Hall for several weeks. At last report, the fundamentalists were still serious about recall.

The SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS, in its editorial column, has tagged the Gay Human Rights

Week proclamation "innocuous, if redundant" and called for a "live-and-let-live spirit" to halt the polarization of the community before the Gay issue can lead to a "brawl" such as happened in Dade County, Florida, which "nobody won".

Meanwhile, members of the Gay and Lesbian community are faced with a difficult decision regarding support in the race for Mayor, with Mayor Janet Gray Hayes and Councilman Al Garza, the main contenders, both friendly to the Gay rights cause. Other mayoral candidates, polled by the SAN JOSE MERCURY, said they would not have voted for the Gay Human Rights Week, except for Socialist Worker Party candidate Claudette Begin, who was not available for comment.

The council seats of two of the councilpersons who voted against the proclamation -- Larry Pegram and Joe Colla -- are up for grabs this year, but none of the challengers has come out in favor of Gay rights.

ates at the Bank Club and starring Billy de Frank and Dowager Empress Marlena of Modesto, played to capacity crowd -- but, again, most everyone was from outside Oakland.

Jack London Square's Zephyr Lounge is now open. We like the idea of their "Attitude Adjustment Hour" from 4:30 to 6:30pm.

## Libertarians Support Butyl Nitrite

The Santa Clara Valley Libertarians for Gay Rights on March 19 unanimously approved a resolution supporting the right of individuals to purchase nitrite compounds marketed under the brand name RUSH as a room odorizer and used by many Gays as an aphrodisiac.

RUSH and similar products were banned by the State of Connecticut last July, and the State of California has recently interrupted sales here pending a trial to be held in late spring.

A copy of the LGR resolution has been mailed to Sacramento. It calls for "an end to government food and drug regulation and for abolition of any and all agencies which forcibly interfere with the individual's right to use, control, and disposal of her or his own body."

## Points South, East, & North

by Gene

### SAN JOSE-SANTA CLARA

Be on hand for the Lambda Association's 2nd Anniversary Show, April 2 at the newly remodeled Desperados in Cupertino. The show format will differ from last year's. This year's will be a tribute to the San Jose City Council members who recently braved public sentiment and passed the Gay Human Rights Week resolution for San Jose.

April 3 will be Academy Awards Night at Aunt Helen's Galley, 163 W. Alma, San Jose. This will be a fun-filled evening with surprises for all.

April 9, softball practice season begins at Bramhill Park. Call 264-1880 or 287-6600 for information.

If you're looking for a waterbed, accessories... or just things, check Frank Gonzales' and Tom Lewis' Nautical Experience on Stevens Creek Blvd.

### HAYWARD

Grand Opening time at the Get-A-Way, 21859 Mission Blvd. A grand old time and surprises for all.

Save all your old Aluminum beer and soft drink cans and turn them in to the Mission Possible or the Turf Club. The cans will be sold for scrap, and the monies earned will be put toward the cost of the Hayward float in San Francisco's Gay Freedom Day Parade.

April 28-30 the Turf Club will present "Curse You, Jack Dalton," a lively play directed by Dick Boye and starring Chris Martinez, Muriel Sanchez, Tom Brasher, Michael Holland, Alan Ruiz, Phil Sloan, and with guest star JOSE. The price is \$2.50 and all proceeds go to the Hayward Equal Rights Organization.

### OAKLAND

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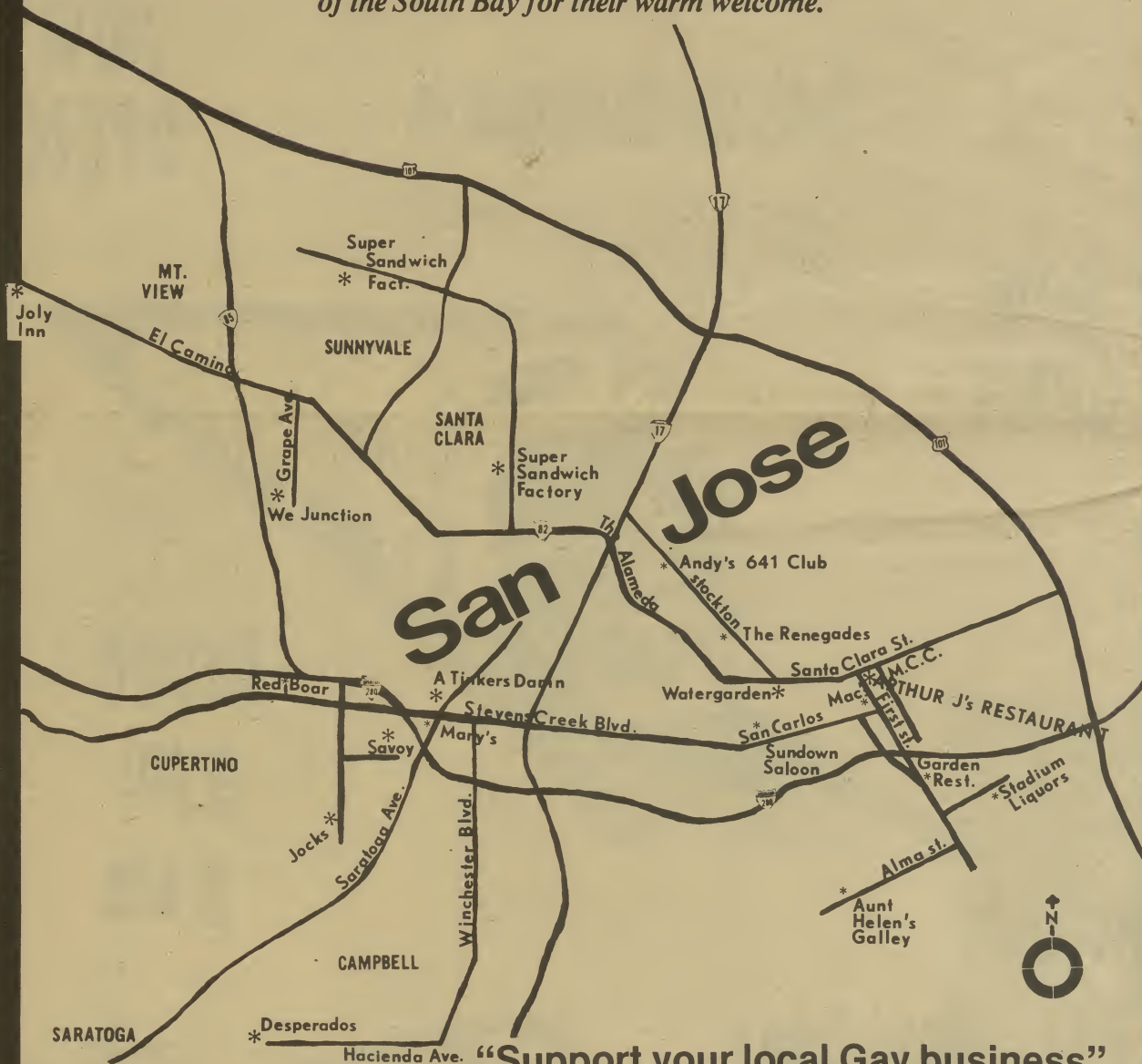
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### 8th Anniversary Issue



## Show Biz in Review

### Stage: Sly Fox

The arrival of "The Great One," Jackie Gleason, in town is a momentous event; that he is appearing in "Sly Fox" at the Orpheum for 8 weeks guarantees packed houses. The fact that he acquits himself admirably as an actor with minimal "Gleason" touches in the lead role while letting loose a barrage of schtick in a surprise role doubling should satisfy all carping critics, whether they want Gleason the actor or Gleason the personality. He's offering both, successfully.

"Sly Fox," by Larry Gelbart (who gave us "On God!" and "A Funny Thing Happened"), is based upon Jonson's "Volpone." What Gelbart has actually written is an extended burlesque sketch, full of smutty innuendo and double entendre one-liners. If you realize in advance you're in for a raunchy evening of little style but lowdown fun, then you should enjoy this

"Fox." All that's lacking is Tempest Storm as the flip whore, Miss Fancy (but Marie Wallace gives her a gung-ho shot).

The plot concerns a greedy con man named Foxwell J. Sly who has everyone convinced he's dying and accepting all forms of bribery to name them as sole inheritor of his will. He is aided by his sneaky servant Able, who manipulates as well as the master. But when Sly persuades one sucker to offer him his wife, the police make an inopportune entrance and it looks like all is lost. But by lucky chance and the gold heart of a whore, Sly lives to con another day.

Gleason leads a skilled cast, with Cleavon Little outstanding as Able, his cohort in crime, and Irwin Corey walking off with top honors as the doddering Crouch (Corey's brief scene with Wallace as she thrusts his hand into her bosom is pure Borscht Circuit blackout at its best). Solid support is also provided by Edward Zang and Bob Levine as Sly's two other



Jackie Gleason for eight weeks at the Orpheum -- in a good blue comedy, SLY FOX.

surd Person Singular," now in the A.C.T. repertory at the Geary Theater, offers possibly the funniest two acts in years. Unfortunately, it's a three act play, and Ayckbourn's heavyhanded third act "message" is dreary to the extreme. But those first two acts ... WOW!

Ayckbourn takes dead aim on three couples — Jane and Sidney, lower middle-class in every way (she lives to polish furniture; he's a social-climbing egotist); Ronald and Marion, an older upper-class couple who are used to each other as conveniences (she drinks; he fills time and space); and Eva and Geoffrey, an architect and his clinging wife (he cheats constantly; she contemplates suicide). Each act takes place in the kitchen of one of the couples at Christmas, last year, this year, and next. We see Sidney rise to fortune, Marion drink more and more, Geoffrey decline, and Eva become the strong one. In the first act, Jane and Sidney entertain; Jane gets locked out in the rain at her own party while Sidney shows his social hopelessness. In Act Two, at Geoffrey and Eva's, he's leaving her the next day, and Eva tries to commit suicide via anything handy. She's foiled every time by her unsuspecting guests. Barbara Dirickson is hilarious without ever saying a word as the befuddled Eva, trying to write suicide notes that just keep getting torn up or thrown away.

That terrible Act Three finds us at Ronald and Marion's; the power is off so Marion is huddled in bed with her bottle and Ronald is reading a spicy paperback in the kitchen. The act wouldn't be nearly so terrible if director Allen Fletcher would speed up the tempo and William Paterson would forsake his beloved "count 10 and speak" dramatic pauses. Paterson's Ronald is a bore, mainly because we've seen it so often before. And Ayckbourn, while a brilliant comedy writer, has trouble in the dramatic clinches, resorting to heavyhanded dialogue and overstatement.

But for two acts the dialogue scintillates and the performances sparkle. Susan E. Pellegrino is superb as the mousey Jane and Marrian Walters adds another gem of a performance as Marion. Daniel Davis opts for a broader style than the others, with in-

victims. But the tempo of the play is not as honed as it should be; director Arthur Penn seems reluctant to let his comic actors work fullout, abandoning all pretense of period style. The courtroom scene does not zip along (not aided by Peter Johl's lackluster Captain). The burden thus falls upon the script, which ranges from hoary bits so old they were dated 20 years ago to lines like Miss Fancy offering to testify, "I'll tell them the only way you'd be able to have sex would be to be raised and lowered on pulleys!"

"Sly Fox" is not for the aesthete, nor for the easily shocked, but for those who enjoy a good blue comedy performed by first-rate comedians, then "The Great One" and Co. await your presence.

### Stage: Absurd Person Singular

For those who prefer their comedy on the more sophisticated side, Alan Ayckbourn's "Ab-

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numerable mannerisms and twitches, but they work for Sidney, and Davis gives us a compellingly funny portrayal.

As the lights dimmed on Act Two, I found myself wiping tears of laughter away; it's been a long time since a comedy grabbed me so consistently that the laughs came without letup. While Ayckbourn may be writing a play about six people that never touch, all absurd in their own ways, it is the barrage of sight gags and one-liners that sets his play far above the average and makes for a rollicking evening... forced and contrived though it may be.

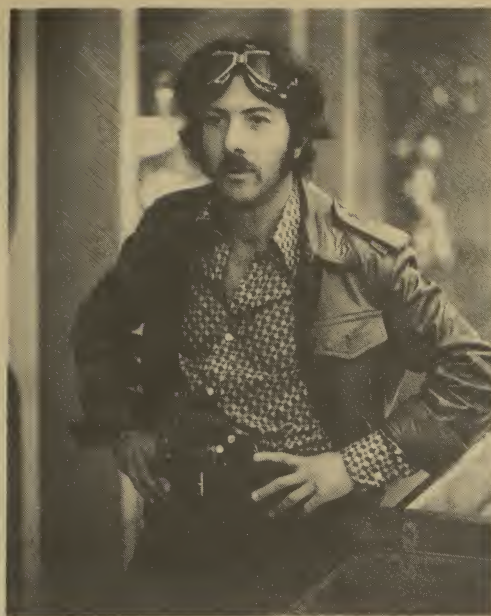
## Stage: Dear Daddy

It is impossible to judge Denis Cannan's prize-winning British play "Dear Daddy" because of the inept production now at the Alcazar Theater. Possibly it is a literate work of style and substance when presented as an ensemble piece, but not as a tour de force for actor Jack Aranson, who plops himself stage center and orates for two deadly-dull acts. I suspect that this play about a fading actor forced into a family reunion with three neurotic children and two wives (ex and current) would

not generate much empathy or interest even if directed in focus.

Director John Beary should nightly perform a public Act of Contrition in the lobby during intermission; "Dear Daddy" has the distinction of being the worst directed show I have ever seen. That includes the PTA Follies. The general direction is - come onstage and find a seat; if you have an important speech, move into the center.

Bernard is an unemployed actor, a supreme egotist who reads vociferously and treats his wives and children as troublesome interruptions. The daughter is a feminist who espouses



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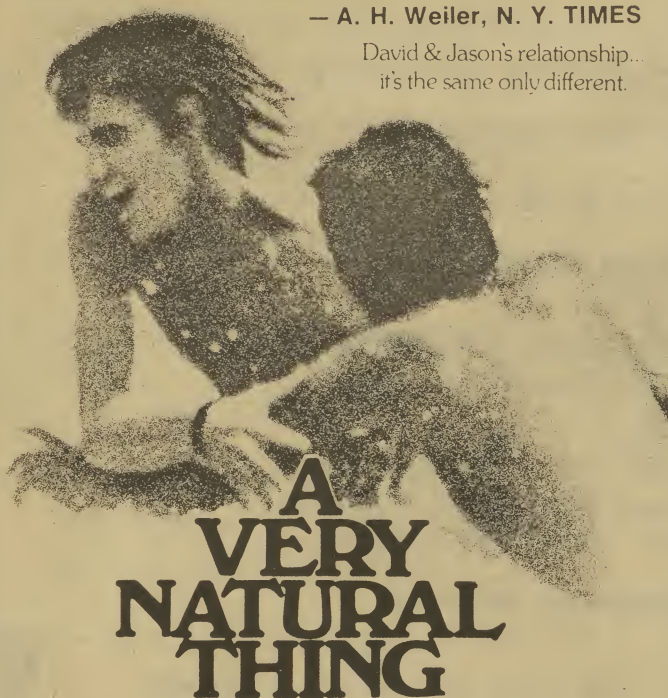
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## Film: House Calls

causes, the son Billy may or may not be homosexual and in his late 20's has yet to find anything to do with his life but bum around. Only son Charles has a balanced future, but Charles is an impassive schnook of little imagination. Their mother is now an alcoholic; the second wife, an ex-dress designer, now has no interests left.

The only characters of any spirit are Bernard, his daughter and Charles' horsey fiancée. The rest are dull milksops. Fortunately, there are three excellent performances onstage at the Alcazar — Kate Harper is electric as the daughter, Byron Jennings is first-rate as the wasted son Billy, and Jane Famulener works wonders as the fiancée. Vanya Franck is uneven as the first wife, scoring fine moments early on but losing them increasingly in the second act. Claudia Cummings is dreadful as the second wife and David Crawford struggles valiantly to make something out of Charles.

But over it all reigns Jack Aranson as Bernard. While Aranson was a magnificent Dylan Thomas, he does not relate to other actors on a stage, playing for an invisible mirror that only he can see. This leaves the other actors walking three steps behind respectfully carrying the baggage.

The lighting is best left undiscussed, and the costumes are not credited; that's a pity. I'd love to know how Miss Cummings portraying a dress designer managed to be saddled with the ugliest rag ever whipped up on a Singer.

"Dear Daddy" gives new dimension to the word tedium.

Charlie Nichols is a recently widowed doctor who decides to pursue a new career as a swinger; he meets a sharp-tongued patient named Ann, a divorcee who plays for keeps, and their ensuing romance provides a most delightful film.

Walter Matthau is a bejeweled wonder as Charlie, fighting to keep his hospital from floundering under the senile direction of Art Carney and maintain a loose relationship with Glenda Jackson... all at the same time. Matthau is gruffly endearing, and Jackson reveals a sly comic flair that surfaces too seldom in her career. It is also one of Art Carney's best performances as the conniving head of the hospital who knows he's senile but refuses to quit. Add Richard Benjamin as Matthau's medical confidante and you have a quartette of subtle comic performances under Howard Zieff's adept direction that makes "House Calls" not a side-splitter but a smiling giggle that's good entertainment. With an intelligent script about middle-aged romance by Max Shulman and Julius J. Epstein, make a house call to the Coliseum Theater and just enjoy.

## Film: Straight Time

Straight time is that period when an ex-convict tries to go legit after being released from prison. Dustin Hoffman portrays Max Dembo, who ultimately freaks out and returns to his criminal ways. Why Max freaks out seems



weak: he finds a job, he gets a girlfriend, and when his sadistic parole officer rides him too hard, Max returns quickly to the easy money and fast getaway. At first we are made to think Max really wants to go straight, but with this quick transition, Max can only be regarded as a three-time loser who would have reverted if an old lady on the street said "Boo!" The motivations are fuzzy at best. The remaining two-thirds of the movie trace Max's criminal career, which he relishes.

"Straight Time" is a guidebook on how to commit a successful robbery. Dustin Hoffman, sounding like he just graduated from Harvard, is enigmatic as Max, and director Ulu Grosbeard keeps the tension taut. But I find nothing interesting about Max; he is a confirmed criminal who lives by the criminal code, and as such, he has all the appeal of watching some punk rob your neighborhood grocery. You learn nothing about why Max is like this, so the underworld milieu of the small-time thief is all you see. It is not particularly exciting, Max is neither fascinatingly doomed nor remotely admirable, and whatever point author Edward Bunker was trying to make is distilled to a sleazy action film with a stone-faced leading man. The supporting cast is fine, especially Theresa Russell as Max's girlfriend, but Hoffman and Grosbeard offer nothing but atmosphere with little depth. At the Alhambra.

### Club: Sean Delgado

Appearing Tues. thru Thurs. from 5:30 to 8:30 at Trinity Place is new singer Sean Delgado. New to the Bay Area, though she has been performing now in the chic Trinity lounge for 4 months. From the screams and applause that greeted the first four bars of her numbers, she has built a following already; it's easy to understand why.

She alternates between disco and jazzy blues, each presented with dramatic intensity and vocal power. With a husky voice capable of belting out the back wall and a lithe body that accents every lyric, Miss Delgado offers a dynamic turn that ranges from a shoutin' "Trip to Nowhere" to a medley of "The Man I Love"/"Lover Man" to a rousing "The Greatest Love of All." She performs each number as if it were do-or-die, and while some quieter songs interspersed would offer a change of pace, it's easy to understand why she has to belt each number. Some of the audience was noisy almost to the point of rudeness on show caught, but then applauded madly at the end of each song. I was



Appearing Tues. thru Thurs., cocktail hour, at Trinity Place -- the dynamic Sean Delgado.



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# Keys to the City

## How to react sensibly to Spring

By Bill Dodge

**SHAPE UP** It's only a few short months until beach season. And that's just time enough to get your body into real shape at **Solaris**. Even if you can only spare a lunch hour or quick stop enroute home, the Nautilus equipment gives you a workout equivalent to almost three solid hours in about twenty-five minutes! Beautiful facilities with a Juice Bar and Restaurant, sauna, steam and jacuzzi. A one-year membership is \$400, with two years costing \$525.00. If you join on the first visit, you get \$50 off the membership fee. Call Vance for your free workout session. **Solaris Physical Fitness Center, 1335 Sutter Street, 771-6722.**

**DRESS UP** In all the latest western wear from **The Trading Post**. This is a one-stop shopping center that can't be duplicated anywhere on the West Coast. A great selection of Western items (Levi's from \$17.50, cowboy hats from \$6.00 to \$15.00), plus uniform wear, police equipment, buckles, casual wear, lots of leather (including a Crisco cover in real leather), boots, and so many other varied items that **The Trading Post** has really earned its reputation as "The Gay Department Store." **The Trading Post, 960 Folsom Street, 777-4837.**

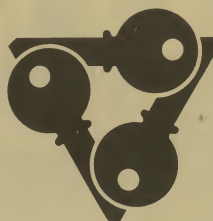
**CLEAN UP** And enjoy your spring fever to the laziest possible degree. Turn over the housecleaning chores to Pat Kelly's **A Woman's Touch**. This group of specially trained men and women are bonded and insured, and available at \$6.00 per hour. No job is too big or small, and there are no minimum number of hours required. **A Woman's Touch** cleans like mother used to. Every client is actually interviewed and a room-by-room check list made out and followed each cleaning session. **A Woman's Touch, 921-2383.**

**COLOR UP** There's nothing like color to change your mood from winter to spring. **Jim Kinney's Touch of Perfection** can turn your interiors into a veritable rainbow of tasteful colors. Jim specializes in elaborate Victorian interiors, but is just at home painting simple contemporary flats. Some of the city's most beautiful interior color combinations have been created by Jim Kinney. Reasonable rates of only \$9.75 per hour. **Touch of Perfection, by appointment only: 864-6540.**

**GET IT UP** Spring is the time a man's fancy turns. And to whatever it may turn can usually be found at **Fairoaks**, a place to hang out and actualize your fantasies. Patrons often wear costumes: gym shorts, levis, leather or whatever! This completely restored Victorian facility is totally unique in the City. You can make a reservation in advance. Memberships are \$3.00 annually, lockers up to \$3.00, rooms for \$5.00 Sunday thru Thursday, and from \$7.00 weekends and holidays. **Fairoaks, 799 Oak Street, 552-2220.**

**STOCK UP** On everything you need for spring, summer, fall and winter with one easy purchase! **Keys To The City** is a book containing over 100 coupons you use just like cash. They're accepted for everything from a summer swimsuit to a winter car tune-up. For just \$12.95 you'll receive discounts on jewelry, head supplies, footwear, hair styling, oriental rugs, bakery goods, antiques, stationery, gifts, erotica, pets, baths, restaurants, on paint, wallpaper, plants, flowers and most everything you want to make life more complete. As an example, the businesses and services mentioned in this column are among the dozens of participants in **Keys To The City** offering substantial discounts to purchasers of the **Keys** books.

## Keys to the City



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reminded of Peter Allen watching Julie Wilson perform when a noisy table behind him wouldn't quit; Allen wrote a note and sent it to them saying, "Quiet Please, There's a Lady on Stage" ... and a song was born.

It's hard working on a carpeted floor eye-level with the audience and with a spotlight focused somewhere on the back table. Miss Delgado must work doubly hard to maintain the audience attention, though I do think she excessively illustrates her lyrics with hand gestures (I don't need to see "the rose in the April snow" actually plucked from the bush); but she's

a powerhouse that needs to be better showcased. She's fortunate to have two excellent musicians backing her, Garth Steen on piano and Nick Saume on percussion. Obviously a trained dancer as well, she fills every void with continual movement, and she has achieved one thing most performers would envy — she has managed to make the room her own.

Sean Delgado, a talented dynamo, at Trinity Place; she works her room and her audience with intensity and saavy in a frenetic party atmosphere every Tues. thru Thurs.

## Club: Brown & Coffey

Julie Brown and Charles Coffey are two bright young comics who are appearing every Wednesday at Chez Jacques. They write their material, which runs a wide gamut from raunchy to zany to downright clever. As with all young teams starting out to build an act, not all of their material works. Some of it is better in concept than execution, but their batting average is good and their approach refreshing.

"Springtime in New Guinea" is a wacky bit of nonsense, very proppy, exploring tribal rites of strange New Guinea natives. Julie as Amy Carter is a winner; Julie as Carol Lawrence doing a commercial for Douche Cafe is hilarious at the outset but then peters out. A sketch about Roy and Dale makes no sense whatsoever, but their duo at rock concerts or a drive-in movie strike chords of recognition. Peg Bracken, Edgar Allen Poe, Rod McKuen and the ever-popular Anita all get zinger treatments, and I particularly liked Julie as a feminist poet with a nudge husband. At the moment, their act is casual (meaning unstructured) which works well in the relaxed Chez Jacques. It will have to tighten and zip along to build momentum in bigger rooms. They also tend to extend bits past their punch value and need to hone themselves more to punch solidly. But they're still in the formative stages with new material constantly, and that is always exciting. With Jeff Rock at the piano, Brown and Coffey are two slightly deranged budding talents with likeable personalities and a keen sense of the ridiculous.

Donald McLean



Julie Brown and Charles Coffey, Wednesdays at Chez Jacques — with a keen sense of the ridiculous, though their photo might suggest otherwise.

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## People's Cultural Center

### DANCE

On Saturday, April 1, at 9:30pm, the People's Cultural Center will host a dance featuring the Rock-steady Reggae of LEGS. This group is billed as offering "some of the finest Jamaican music heard in the Bay Area." If you like reggae, don't miss the Jamaican rock-steady reggae band, LEGS. Donation is \$2.

### THEATER

On Sunday, April 2, at 8:00pm, the Center will present LITTLE SALLY WALKER SITTING IN A SAUCER, a New Age Musical Theatre production with Rhodessa Jones and Max Schwartz. Music will be by Jon Raskin. Also on the program are Miriam Cantor and Frank Hoffman presenting the best of their "Queer Words" program. Donation is \$2.

\* \* \*

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 5 & 6, at 8:00pm, the Center will present the widely acclaimed play CRIMES AGAINST NATURE: A PLAY BY FAGGOTS ABOUT SURVIVAL — an experimental piece devised and presented by the Gay Men's Theater Collective. It has been called one of the best original theater pieces to come out of SF in a long time. Donation is \$2.50.

The People's Cultural Center is located at 721 Valencia St., San Francisco. For further information about the Center's presentations, call 431-9329.

### CASTRO, FREE SHOW

"Sci-Clones," a Free People's Theatre event created and performed by the Angels of Light. A "cosmic" comedy-tragedy of original music and dance. March 31 and April 1 & 2 at 8:00pm (except 7:30pm on Sunday) at Everett Jr. High, 450 Church St. (at 16th). Admission is free!

## Julian Theater

THE DISPLAY OF MELISSA HARDING, a new play by Hans Stein-keller premiering at the Julian Theatre April 15, takes its audience on a frightening tour through the realm of mind control and behavior modification. Based upon documented reports, the play is an excursion behind the closed doors of a CIA training camp into a meeting of specialists who are assembled to view the demonstration of a programmed subject by her "handler."

The author, a Bay Area resident, whose play about Sirhan's assassination of Robert F. Kennedy, A VERY GENTLE PERSON, was premiered by the Julian Theatre (and is currently running in Los Angeles at the Melrose Theatre), is a sharp critic of official criminality and abuse of power by law enforcement and Federal spy agencies.

For information and reservations, phone 647-8098.



# Interview:

## April Fool! It's Anna Russell!!

By Donald McLean

You have to admire producers with a sense of humor; George Weingart is such a producer. On April 1st he will present the original April Fool, Miss Anna Russell, at the Masonic Auditorium in her one-woman evening of total foolishness. Miss Russell will dissect the world of opera, national anthems and fussy clubwomen with her hilarious humor.

When you meet Anna Russell, she is exactly what you expect; she doesn't change from the concert stage to the living room. She tends to view the world with a slightly jaundiced eye, though there is always a merry twinkle lurking behind her startlingly blue eyes. Recumbent upon the sofa in a smart pants suit and clutching a glass of wine, she greets me with: "I'm a senior citizen since I last saw you! Now I can go to the movies for \$1.50 and ride the bus for a nickel. There's a lot to be said for it. But now, lovely, beautiful things of 25 turn up and say 'Who the hell are you?!' Everybody I used to work for have all died; I just hope I make it through this tour."

With her bagpipes sulking in the corner ("too many changes of temperature lately, ya know"), Anna Russell gleefully describes her career from frustrated would-be operatic prima donna to concert comedienne — "How did I start? Oh, my dear, some of it is very shame-making. The first time I did Wagner's 'Ring Cycle' I was almost drummed out of New York. You see, I followed Florence Foster Jenkins (a dilettante socialite who had an atrocious voice but gave operatic recitals for her



A one-woman evening of total foolishness. Anna Russell at the Masonic Auditorium, April 1.



"The first time I did Wagner I was almost drummed out of New York."

friends anyway), but she was considered potty so it didn't jeopardize people's status as serious concertgoers. But I was considered sane, so they were outraged... I got expelled from the Royal College of Music (in England). I was a frustrated singer with a terrible voice, so I used to yodel on some notes and everybody howled with mirth. So I said, 'If everybody's going to laugh, I might as well make a buck on it!' It started out as revenge, but I eventually enjoyed it so much I just had fun. I was a soprano; I'm a bass now. I've got a loud noise. I had a fair voice years ago and then I went through the change (of life) and you either go dotty or your voice lowers. My voice dropped one full octave in one week. Now I can sing Sarastro in 'The Magic Flute' but never again the Queen of the Night."

"I'm not all that unusual, you know. Nellie Melba was sort of a musical Auntie Mame. And I saw Tetrazini rehearsing the 'Caro Nome' from 'Rigoletto'; she was big as a house and getting on. She was having some trouble, so she took out her teeth, handed them to the conductor, and continued singing, sounding beautiful. The people who are uptight are the people who aren't very good at it."

"I never rehearse; I open everything cold. You really can't do it without an audience; they're half the fun. This year I'm doing 'The Magic Flute'; last time I was here two years ago, I did 'Nabucco'. Who has ever seen it? I'd had tickets four different times and each time it was cancelled and they put on 'La Boheme'. I'm rather sick of 'La Boheme'; I've

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seen it 95 times. If my tiny hand is frozen one more time, I'm going to throw up! Oh, those consumptive operas. Mimi, Violetta and Manon; actually, Manon had VD but you're not supposed to say that."

Since her last S.F. appearance, Miss Russell has done everything from entertaining on a Mediterranean cruise ship to performing in 'Daughter of the Regiment' in Canada ("I did flamenco with castanets; after all that coloratura, it was a helluva change of pace!") to appearing at Town Hall. "Having been in Australia for eight years, which means you're practically dead, I heard this burst of applause about fifteen minutes before I went on and they told me Montserrat Caballe was in the audience. I said, 'Who's Montserrat Caballe?' and they said, 'You ignorant bitch!' She came back with my album afterwards that she wanted autographed. I was ever so flattered. Now we're good friends."

Because of a contractual fight with a former manager, Miss Russell fled to Australia for 8 years to work (the agent had forgotten to get Australian rights to her; in a contract typo, she was prevented from working in Austria, but not Australia). "In Australia you have to do everything because they don't pay very much. I had my own radio show, I toured in 'A Little Night Music' as Madame Armfeldt, I was even a clown in a circus with a camel tethered to my trailer. I must tell you about that newly built Sydney Opera House they all rave about. Well, it's a fun house. You can do almost everything in it except opera. Put in the Folies Bergere and you've got it made. The opera has already pulled out of it. Disaster!"

Several glasses of wine later, I start to make my departure. But I can't resist asking Anna Russell if she finds it difficult to go forward with a straight face into the world? She grins and says, "I find myself behaving like the president of the women's club at parties. But I actually behave very well; you don't want to be socially hopeless. But I admit I have a bit of a laugh afterwards, sometimes!"

Donald McLean

## Tales of Tessi Tura

### A Fruity Tutti

by George Heymont

Puccini was a master of musical foreplay. At two moments in MADAMA BUTTERFLY the audience can stand it no longer and usually climaxes in applause, drowning out the music and interrupting the flow of action. It always happens in the same spots: at the end of Cio-Cio-San's entrance, and in Act II when she rushes onstage to present her child to Sharpless, the American Consul. A rare gem of a performance — where restraints are clamped on the schmaltz and the drama stays intact — happened in San Diego last month. It was perhaps the most beautifully underplayed performance of BUTTERFLY I have ever seen.

Atsuko Azuma said in a program note that the composer made mistakes. "Puccini wrote from his imagination. Butterfly is a Geisha but she comes from a good family. The Japanese never get married in a garden!" Her performance was restrained and simple. It was not the coy caricature we often get that looks like a soprano imitating a cross between Minnie Mouse and Betty Boop in Geisha drag. The low-keyed approach let the audience become an intimate part of the drama in a way that almost never happens.

There were some changes: The opera was

performed in two acts to strengthen the continuity. A handsome unit set was used (the best for this opera I have seen in years). Instead of crushing the daylight out of the cherry blossoms in the Flower Duet, Cio-Cio-San and Suzuki delicately placed them in wall receptacles mounted on the house supports. The audience was drawn into Butterfly's small, fragile world, and her death became all the more poignant. Ms. Azuma's dignity and reserve served her proudly in the second act.

As Pinkerton, Rico



"Everything's coming up Oranges for me and for you!!!" The Prince (Joseph Evans) reveals his plans to a worried Truffaldino (David Hall) in the San Diego's production of Prokofiev's THE LOVE FOR THREE ORANGES.

Serbo was fine. Cio-Cio-San used her experience as a Geisha shrewdly in the first act love duet. By the time Pinkerton rolled around to "Vieni, vieni," it was obvious she had him begging for it. Making his American debut as Sharpless (and also as Ford in FALSTAFF) was John Broecheler, a startlingly handsome baritone from the Netherlands. He is a fine musician and a deft actor. Capobianco knows how to pick them!

### VERDI

FALSTAFF, alas, did not fare very well. The production was an old one borrowed from San Francisco Opera. It looked ragged and forced clumsy entrances from the wings. The ensemble (led by Nancy Shade and Muriel Costa-Greenspon) was willing and able enough, certainly anxious to please. But things did not mesh at all. The opera was performed in English, but Verdi does

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not always translate well. A problem arises when so many people are singing different thoughts at once: NOTHING comes through. Two years ago San Diego used Andrew Porter's translation for OTHELLO, and the text ended up getting butchered. Now Porter is no slouch! His English version of the Ring Cycle is nothing short of brilliant.

With Shakespeare's poetry adapted into Italian, then translated back into English and sung, the original beauty of the language was lost. The result sounded like reading Cliff Notes. To



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make matters worse: If you decide to sing the opera in English, it is ridiculous to have Fenton and Nanetta sing their words of love to each other in Italian! An added problem was that John Broecheler (who sang Ford) apparently has a thick Dutch accent. This turned his English into a parody of Count Dracula: "I will get my revenge on him."

In his first attempt at Sir John Falstaff, Spiro Malas showed strong potential. Working against a sorry translation and beset with a tacky production, even Tito Capobianco could not salvage the evening. The shame of it is that ten years ago Sarah Caldwell toured a brilliant FALSTAFF with the American Opera Company. Hers was mounted on a turntable and was one of the finest evenings of theater ever. If only it could be resurrected!!

## PROKOFIEV

Happily, San Diego's final production of the season was a complete triumph! Prokofiev's THE LOVE FOR THREE ORANGES is not the most melodic piece of music. Most of us are familiar only with the wildly bizarre march rhythms. Tito's fertile imagination was turned on full force, and the evening became an incredible experience in musical fantasy. Visually the production resembles the child of NYCO's TALES OF



"You're from Big D! How'd I guess?!" From the way you talk and the way you dress!!" Cio-Cio-San (Atsuko Azuma) checks out the goods (Rico Serbo) in the Japanese-American male order business.

HOFFMAN and COQ D'OR (both Capobianco productions). It is a simple set on a revolving stage but with inventive lighting and direction, it becomes the compleat fairy tale, never failing to delight the audience.

The cast (mostly rising American singers) performed with a great sense of fun and solid professionalism. As the villains, John Darrenkamp and Muriel Costa-Greenspon camped it up with evil glee. David Hall sang the role of Truffaldino while turning cartwheels, backflips and other acrobatics. Diane Curry was hysterically funny as the evil witch Fata Morgana, and Joseph Evans was delightful as the Prince. A very funny performance came from basso David Cornell in drag as the 10-foot tall cook. Wearing 12-inch platforms

and tons of padding, he scooped up the Prince in his "evil ladle" and proceeded to act coquettish with his catch.

ORANGES is the kind of opera that would be perfect for TV. I hope San Diego finds a telecast sponsor and gets some rental requests for their production. It is a sheer joy!

Tito's plans for his summer Verdi festival keep growing. San Diego will be adding one new production each year, eventually building up to four operas running over six weeks. Next year includes LA TRAVIATA (in the production televised from Wolf Trap) and the first production in the United States since 1840 of Verdi's I LOMBARDI. Will wonders never cease!!

George Heymont

tion of Otto Maximilian, in its original, intimate, and loving format.

A musical comedy revue capturing "everything you always wanted to sing about sex," "Let My People Come" has played to full-house approval from New York to London and Paris. Reflecting the mood of the '70's, the revue tackles the subject of sex in a humorous, light-hearted and sensitive manner.

Earl Wilson, Jr., son of the famed New York columnist, and a former singer and club performer, notes, "Because the show is an open and sensitive statement of our times, it requires special direction. Otto was able to give this show that special commitment and direction. Both of us are committed to making every production statement as honest and innocently fun as possible."

In the past, when "Let My People Come" was released to other producers and directors, the show at best, lost its intimacy, at worst, was totally misrepresented. At one point Wilson was even forced to close his own show on Broadway at the Morosco Theatre, and outside of George Bernard Shaw, who also closed his own show, there are few authors who have so closely protected their work.

Cast members for the San Francisco production include Joan Frosch, last seen here in San Francisco in "A Marvelous Party," and Ann Debinger, who appeared here in "A Drunkard." Other cast members include Terri Cowick, Marios Estebez, Mike Griffin, Dudley Jones, Audrei Kairen, April Monson and Scott Warner. Musical direction is by Ken Ford, who also directed the incredibly successful and still running Philadelphia production of "Let My People Come."

Performances are Tues. thru Thurs. at 8:30pm, Fri. and Sat. at 8:00 and 10:30pm, and Sun. at 3:00 and 7:30pm. Tickets are available at most major agencies or by phoning 434-1308.

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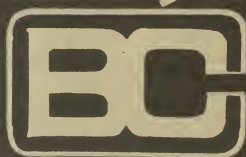
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## Sweet Lips Sez

by Dick Walters

Thanks to the staff of Totie's on Larkin for the "Sweet Lips" cup... it is greatly appreciated.

Suzie of the Gangway, you did a great job on Daddy Joe's surprise birthday party... also a nice luncheon party for Roger Hall at the \*P.S. A fun, fun day!

Don't forget Irene's Betty Grable Look-Alike Contest at the Strand Theater at midnight on April 14... 1st prize is \$200 and a round-trip to New York... all for the Community Softball

League... tickets are \$5. By the way, Irene can still be seen at the Pendulum on Saturdays and Sundays from 6:00 till 10:00am... right, Fern?

Thank you, Bob Cramer, for the jelly beans and for having Art with no jockstrap on underneath his shorts... now I know why you married him.

How did you enjoy your surprise birthday party, Mel Square of the Outer Limits... but how come you put out

your own flyers?

Remember the 8th Hanging of Sweet Lips in Portland April 5-9... following is the itinerary of fun events planned for the fun-seekers:

WED., APRIL 5

Pre-Hanging party at the Kokpit. Come and say "goodbye" to Sweet Lips before the trip. The bus will leave the Kokpit promptly at 12:01am. Miss it if you dare!

THURS., APRIL 6

The Fearless Falcon Roadliner, with David at the controls, will arrive in Portland about noon and disembark its passengers at The Embers. Here they will join with the "lunch bunch" and enjoy the standard three-martini noonday ritual. Following, guests will check in at the Paramount-Heathman Hotel.

At 8:00pm, all Portland will welcome the out-of-town guests at the Family Zoo. When the Family Zoo closes, revelers will find Mamie's (next door) raring to go all night long with favorite eating delights — of all kinds.

FRI., APRIL 7

Everyone meets promptly at 1:00pm at The Embers from where Mame and Lance will lead a tour of the City of Roses, returning about 5:30pm for cocktails and finger food at the Kachina.

At 8:30pm, the management of The Tavern has arranged a One-Ring-Circus.

SAT., APRIL 8

From Noon to 3:00pm, Jose I will present a culinary experience known as Jose's Mexican Brunch at ex-Empress Darcelle XV's. For dessert Jose will (again) present his inimitable production of MADAMA BUTTERFLY, which has been brought to the City of Roses at great expense and after years of careful rehearsals.

At 9:00pm the Back Room at Dahl & Penne's becomes the site of the ever-popular theatre extravaganza. Vanessa will transform the room into "A Night at the Kokpit" with happenings that could only take place at 301 Turk Street.

SUN., APRIL 9

As early as 7:00am. Dahl & Penne's plans X-rated early morning action along with your favorite drinks.

From 11:00am till 2:30pm, Brunch at The Embers, carefully supervised by Bob Ross and the Lips herself, for the give-away price of only \$3. Monies will be donated to one of Portland's favorite charities.

From 3:00 to 5:00pm, "Sweet Lips

Goes Butch" at the Other Inn where Mama Bernice and Sidney have planned surprises weighing a ton. Surprises?! Not Mama Bernice!!!

At 8:30pm at Club Darcelle XV a production of "The Ritz" will be staged, directed by Darcelle herself, and preceded by a cameo presentation by Sweet Lips and Her Dummy.

Congratulations to Bob Ross on the 8th anniversary of B.A.R. now before the 8th Hanging of yours truly, just in case this one actually takes...

## Gay Community Center

Theatre Rhinoceros will present "The Laundry" by David Guerdon April 14-30, Fridays through Sundays, at the Gay Community Center, 330 Grove Street. Curtain is 8:30pm.

Admission donation is \$2.50. PAS vouchers accepted.

"The Laundry" is the story of Daniel, minotaur of the twentieth century, and the fatal meeting with his modern-day Theseus. The play is viewed as "a metaphor of growing up Gay in a straight family." The son is locked in the attic, a monster with a stain that can never be removed. "The Laundry" was first produced in Paris in 1961, and it is Theatre Rhinoceros' first full-scale production.

Theatre Rhinoceros is a San Francisco-based company composed primarily of Gay artists who have bonded to provide a supportive atmosphere -- wherein they might freely express their talents and themselves.

## Gay Registration Drive

The San Francisco Gay Voter Registration Project, initiated by the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club, will hold the kickoff for its 1978 spring drive on April 2 at the opening game of the Gay Softball League at Hayward Field (Gough & Turk Streets) at 2:00pm.

Supervisor Harvey Milk will open the drive, and volunteers will be there to register the thousands expected to attend.

The drive will continue until the May 8 deadline for primary voting and will involve: registration tables in the Castro and Polk areas; tables at special events, such as the April 30 Haight Street Fair; co-operation with Gay oriented businesses in providing forms for their customers; and precinct canvassing in heavily Gay areas.

The project estimates up to 30,000 eligible but unregistered Gay voters in San Francisco at a time when the Briggs initiative may qualify for the November ballot.

Gay Voter Registration plans a long term project modelled after the five-year plan of the Chinese-American Democratic Club, which has succeeded in increasing greatly the number of registered Asian-Americans in the city.

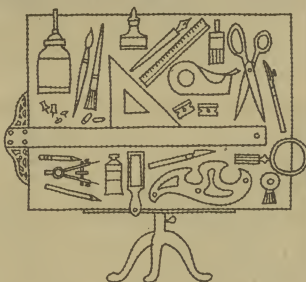
The plan is to systematically register Gay people and to increase their awareness as a political group and in that way to increase the political power of the Gay community.

Bill Kraus is chairman for the drive. For further information, call Harry Britt at 863-4808 or Barry Green at 565-8610.



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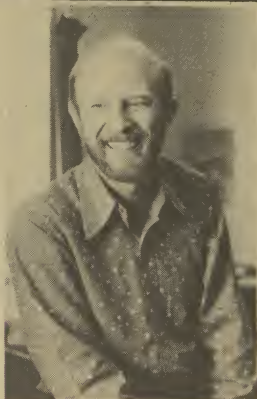
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## Operation Concern



DIRECTOR PAUL DAGUE

Operation Concern, which provides mental health services by Gays for the Gay community, is fortunate to have as its director Dr. Paul Dague.

In 1977, after extensive screening of many qualified applicants, Dague was selected by the Board of Directors. He holds a Ph.D. and is a licensed Psychologist with degrees from Stanford University, Texas Christian University, and the California School of Professional Psychology.

Prior to joining the OC staff, Dague spent 2 years at the Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley where he developed their mental health program. He was a clinical psychologist with the Santa Clara County mental health program for 3 years, and spent 2 years at Riordan High School as Director of Counseling. He has also had a private practice with both Gay and non-Gay clients.

At OC, Dague provides therapy for individuals and couples, crisis intervention, as well as being a leader in group therapy. He directs the other OC staff who are providing similar services for both men and women and families of Gays.

\* \* \* \* \*

Although the contributions made by the Gay community through the many fund-raisers provide a vital portion of the operating expenses, OC must look to other sources for additional funding. Dague spends many hours writing grant proposals and searching out other sources of income which will ensure the continuance of the current program and provide the opportunity for expansion to offer even more services. In addition, Dague handles the endless administrative and supervisory chores.

Dague has been successful at OC and after six months states, "It has been an exciting, challenging and full six months, and I look forward to the months ahead as being equally exciting and full of promise."

Anyone desiring the services of Operation Concern should contact the Clinic at 2323 Sacramento Street, phone: 563-0202.

## M.C.C. News

Acclaimed as one of the outstanding male choruses of California, the Caltech Glee Club of 50 men from the California Institute of Technology will appear at Metropolitan Community Church, located at 23rd & Capp Sts., San Francisco, on April 9 at 1:00pm.

The Glee Club has established an ever-growing reputation for excellence. With a program from the great classics to folk songs and ballads, the prospective engineers and scientists present music with a new vitality and flexibility

rarely heard in college choral groups.

The Glee Club has given concerts all over the United States and has toured in Germany, Austria and Eastern Europe.

The Glee Club is perhaps best known for its Pasadena FESTIVAL OF LIGHT Program, a traditional ceremonial presentation welcoming the religious seasons of Hanukkah and Christmas.

The goal of criticism is to leave the person with the feeling that he or she has been helped.

## BENEFIT AUCTION

A benefit auction will be held at the Hombre on Wednesday, April 5, beginning at 8:00pm.

Proceeds from the auction will go to Ed Buttram, an employee of The Village and formerly of Folsom Prison, who recently underwent major surgery and is on a very limited income. The auction is being sponsored by Grand Duchess Tanya. Co-hosting the evening's festivities will be Emperor Jim Ostlund, Empress Char, and many guest auctioneers.

Auctionable items are still needed. Anyone wishing to donate items is requested to leave them at the Hombre the day of the auction, April 5.

## Rev. Todd Continues Tucson Anti-Gay Crusade

TUCSON - Rev. Cecil Todd, a local fundamentalist who recently brought Anita Bryant to Tucson, continued his "crusade" against "immorality" by presenting a one hour local TV show on the subject of homosexuality. The March 21 broadcast was taped earlier and is being nationally syndicated. Hundreds of local Gays, urged on by Arizona Gay News, inundated the station with telephoned protests.

Rev. Todd has also distributed a questionnaire asking people who attend his services how they feel about five issues. AGN is asking its readers to mail their responses to Rev. Cecil Todd, Revival Fires Ministry, 1200 N. Main Street, Joplin, Mo. 64801. The questions are:

Do you favor voluntary prayer and Bible reading in our public schools? Do you favor cleaner, more wholesome programs on television? Do you approve of a campaign to stop the child molesting, smut and pornographic books and movies? Do you agree that blasphemous movies which portray Christ as a homosexual should be forbidden in America? Do you approve of Anita Bryant's campaign to protect America's children from being recruited by militant homosexuals to their lifestyle?

## BAGL Classes

Beginning April 11, Bay Area Gay Liberation (BAGL) will present a series of four classes at 330 Grove St. The classes are free and all people are welcome.

APRIL 11: Briggs and the New Right

APRIL 18: Put Down Your Sister; Put Down Yourself - How Gay Oppression has its roots in women's oppression.

APRIL 25: Economic Survival and Gay People

MAY 2: Revolution - How Gay people fit into the worldwide struggles for socialism

These classes will demonstrate how a Socialist analysis helps us understand our lives as Gay people.

## Lesbian Schoolworkers Evening

An evening of theater, music and education about the anti-Gay Briggs Initiative. Edison School, 22nd and Church Streets, San Francisco, Saturday, April 15, 7:30pm, \$1.00 donation. For further information call 771-9700 (ext. 60). Sponsored by Lesbian Schoolworkers and Gay Teachers Coalition. Childcare provided; wheelchair accessible.

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## Mr. Marcus

THE HIDES THAT MARCH

### Southern Scandals

South of Market is alive and well; thriving and striving to cater to all tastes and esoterica. What used to be a daytime area for the industrial hobos is now as bustling as any of the other ghettos inhabited by Gays in Our Town. The 527 Club, Brasserie, Ambush Loft, Canary Island, and Hamburger

Mary's offer lunch, catering to Gays and straights alike. Whereas leather men stalked the S of M area only under the cover of darkness in the dark ages of the early 60's, today, in the brightness of the city's best weather area, the handkerchief brigade promenades shamelessly on Howard, Folsom, Harrison and Bryant,

oblivious to the discomfort of hot sun beating down on black leather. Gay leather women bikers congregate at the Canary Island (who bill themselves as the "Oasis of Strange Birds") under the watchful eyes of Deborah, who brews the creamiest soups this side of Paris. Big Bill at the Ambush Deli (upstairs) effortlessly builds sandwiches that make Dagwood's look puny. Sophisticated Gay businessmen mingle amiably in the old-world atmosphere of the Brasserie and their excellent cuisine.

San Francisco's Leather District throbs day and night. The Ambush, Arena, Black & Blue, 527 Club, and Febe's entertain their customers as early as 2 PM (Noon on weekends) and everywhere, everywhere, leather has finally found its place in the sun. At night the tape machines gush out with a plethora of music calculated to make you glow with the lustiness within yourself. Lighting, art work, murals and personnel are carefully hand-picked, screened and debated over to insure the customers get the best for their money. The entire area is preening, scheming and dreaming of those coming months when sophisticated Gays from all over the world will flock here to cavort and carry on with us. South of Market's streets are being readied to handle the crunch of bikes, trucks, cars and wedgies that will traverse one of the world's most famous leather playgrounds. And the stars of the panorama are YOU. I know you're ready for it. Our tourist friends will NOT be disappointed.

\* \* \*

Darryl Lotter, president of the CMC,

has announced that the annual Tax Break Run (99¢) will take place on Friday, April 14. This is always a fun event. The run will hit bars all over the city. By the way, the CMC will guest bartend at the Brig the night before, April 13, so that would be a good time to sign up.

Last Sunday, the Warlocks M/C repeated with their successful Easter Sunday in-town run. A large turnout and a great time was had by all. President Don Penniman is doing a great job with his club.

\* \* \*

Those of you who were lucky enough to get an invitation to the Night Flight #1 at the Gay Community Center the night before New Year's Eve will be glad to learn that Night Flight #2 is in the heaviest planning stages while you're reading this. It will be held on Pier 19 on Saturday, May 27. Hope you all get an invitation. See you there!

\* \* \*

## Sex Forum Offers Gay, Bisex Weekend

The National Sex Forum will present an exploration into Gay male, Lesbian and bisexual lifestyles over the April 15-16 weekend. Gay people are urged to join with teachers, parents and various professionals in an attempt to shatter the myths about homosexual and bisexual people.

The two-day program will cover sexuality and self-definition, mythology and reality, research and theories of causation, counseling Gay and bisexual per-

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The Nob Hill brings us a dozen of 1978's "hottest centerfold men" in A NIGHT AT THE ADONIS.

sons, parents who are Gay or bisexual, and parents who have Gay or bisexual children plus homophobia.

Lectures will be combined with small group discussions and films. The faculty will include persons from the Gay community as well as those from the Bisexual Center, the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, and the National Sex Forum.

The April 15-16 weekend format will be repeated on the weekend of October 28-29.

Advance registration is required. Cost is \$75 per person, \$40 for full-time students, and \$140 for couples. The Forum is located at 1523 Franklin Street, San Francisco, 94109. Information may be obtained from Forum Director Phyllis Lyon, D.A., at (415) 928-1133.

## Sports

### G.S.L. Opens Season

by Jim Duncan

It's a historic week in the entertaining world of Gay sports. This Sunday, April 2, at noon the 1978 Gay Softball League will conduct its first Opening Day Ceremonies and game, San Jose vs. San Francisco. Familiar Margaret Hayward Field (Gough and Turk Sts.) will host the affair.

Pre-game entertainment will include music, celebrity appearances, remarks by Supervisors Milk and Silver and introduction of the eight GSL teams. During the game, the GSL will raffle off a round-trip ticket to Amsterdam (tickets are \$1 each and are available through the 5th inning of the game from team sponsors).

After the game, all players and fans are invited to a benefit dance at Alfie's from 3:00 to 9:00pm. In the event of rain, the dance will go on and the trip to Amsterdam will be raffled off at 4:00pm.

The GSL teams will play a nine-game schedule. Each Sunday

through June the teams will battle at Hayward, Jackson and Balboa parks.

The range of talent in the league reflects the ideals of the GSL. From the San Francisco Drug Program's beginning team to both Alfie's and the USA Athletic Club's top-notch teams, the league is a beautiful mixture of Gay men and women. Some games will be thrillers. Some games will be endurance contests for the fans. Kinda like at Candlestick Park, huh?

I think it's commendable that excellent Gay athletes have joined with less experienced

Gay athletes for a season of good fun and challenges. For a competitive Gay athlete to take the time to share their skills with an eager beginner, rather than compete solely for a trip to some post-season tournament, says a lot about the direction the GSL has taken. What is amusing is that after coaching weaker GSL teams during the pre-

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season practice schedule, several GSL teams have gone on to play excellent heads-up ball with other teams.

#### 1978 GSL LINE-UP

Alfie's  
Bear Hollow  
Black & Blue  
Jocks (San Jose)  
Eagle Creek Saloon  
SF Drug Program  
Tuffy's Sports Shop  
USA Athletic Club

From pre-season performances, it looks like Alfie's and the USA are the class of the league athletically, while Jocks of San Jose will win the sportsmanship award. Bear Hollow and the Black & Blue will dominate the cameras, and the SF Drug Program will win an academy award for "Best Performance While Thoroughly Confused." The Eagle Creek Saloon might just fool everyone, and the big question mark is Tuffy's Sports Shop: a mysterious coach has just signed on and reportedly has the team practicing with molasses.

REMEMBER: 1978 Gay Softball League Opener on Sunday, April 2, at noon on Hayward Field. In case of rain, festivities will be held at Alfie's.

Next issue: Special spring sports interviews.

## Books

### The Manhood Ceremony

by Frank Howell

ED. NOTE: We have placed two reviews of the same novel side by side -- one complimentary, the other highly critical. Frank is a librarian, Dan is a writer -- each man comes at the subject from a different perspective.

#### An Engrossing Book

Junior high age is frequently a time of restlessness and sexual ambiguity. Rigid expectations are fluid at this age and boys are prone to erotic dalliance. Explorations can be frequent and feverish. During high school the wall of inhibitions evolve, and the former times of curiosity now cause embarrassed denial.

Veteran child molesters are all too aware of this natural occurrence and take full advantage of the awkward overtures to these manhood ceremonies.

Ricky Stern, age twelve, confronts these contradictory urges when he meets Arvis Moore, a moody, impulse-ridden nomad in his late twenties. Ricky agrees to take a journey with him that is twisted into a staggering nightmare of

violence and half-filled sex.

We are provided with gripping portraits of Ricky's unstable parents and the two police officers who attempt to find Ricky and Arvis. Mike, one of the cops, is a closet Gay who struggles desperately to conceal his identity. He is threatened by the crime that Arvis Moore has committed.

But the exchanges between Ricky and Arvis are both touching and chilling. This is no run of the mill seduction. Arvis is brutal, but gradually Ricky begins to gain the upper hand and a subtle power struggle deepens. The ending is revolting but riveting in its effect.

When Arvis advances on the boy, we understand how the latter is torn by conflicting desires. At times he is drawn to Arvis, but repulsion is ever present. Author Ross Berliner (a pseudonym) paints what could well be a realistic picture in certain cases!

\* \* \*

"Very slowly Arvis undressed the young boy until Ricky stood totally naked with his back still toward the older man ... Soon the room was still and Ricky felt the increasing heat as the man's body approached his. First he felt the rough hands lightly skim over his skin, causing his body to tingle reluctantly. Then the hands began stroking his tiny nipples until they firmed and hardened and began to hurt as Arvis rubbed and massaged each one deftly. And the hot excitement began to overtake the boy's reserve. The boy took several deep breaths as erotic floods swept over him ... Ricky lay drifting in the semiconscious after moment of sexual release, realizing that he had never experienced

any sexual climax to equal the one he had just had ... Ricky's mind drifted into unconsciousness as he prayed for someone to find him and save him from himself."

\* \* \*

Some readers may find it impossible to believe that a twelve year old boy would be so willing to stroll into the wild blue yonder with a strange adult. Others may be unconvinced that a homosexual policeman would so casually cruise a Gay bar. But, taken as a whole, the novel works a convincing magic.

Mr. Berliner specializes in adolescent medicine. He works as a physician and teacher, is married and has four teenage children.

Hollywood will probably never touch "The Manhood Ceremony" with a stick. The heat from the resulting controversy would be

enough to scare any producer away. For Ricky undergoes the same bisexual emotions that tear at any adult who is challenged by their own inner feelings. There is no special plea here promoting the cause of the "chicken" hawk. We simply learn that the line between acceptable impulse and deeper yearnings is confused and weaves back and forth in time. No wonder Anita Bryant is upset!

But the morbid subject is not treated as another "juice book." The strange relationship between Ricky and Arvis is beautifully counterbalanced by the positive portrait of Mike, the Gay cop.

"The Manhood Ceremony" is engrossing and fast paced. Any discerning reader will easily be able to ride this story to the shattering conclusion.

# THE MANHOOD CEREMONY



a novel by  
**Ross Berliner**

#### A Wooden Book

"The Manhood Ceremony" by Ross Berliner is the kind of book that gives fiction a bad name. It must have taken the author a lot of effort to write so badly. Such stiff, dead prose I haven't encountered in a coon's age. Here's a sample:

"The tall, well-built young man pushed open the heavy unmarked pale orange door easily and walked into the dark interior. The pulsing music immediately pounded in his ears. His eyes adjusted to the dim foyer. He walked several feet to the few stairs that led upward into the main area. As he entered the high-ceilinged wide room, the blinking lights on the dance floor to his left cast strangely changing shadows over his long handsome face."

Author Berliner ought to gather up all his adjectives and adverbs and flush them down his office sink. Better yet, maybe he should stick to being a doctor. At least that's what the dust jacket says the author is. He's not really a writer, you see, but an "eminent physician" at an Eastern university. I hope he treats his patients better

than his readers, or he'll be sued for malpractice.

The dust jacket also says that "Ross Berliner" is a pseudonym, and we're assured that this "eminent physician" is married and the father of four teenagers. Apparently somebody is worried we'll think this story about a child molester might compromise the sexual identity of the "eminent physician."

Are we so far from liberated that authors and publishers still feel compelled to flaunt the heterosexuality of someone who handles a touchy subject like this one? Do they still believe that only certified straights, medical ones at that, can handle "Gay" subjects? But then maybe the real reason the author used a pen name is to protect himself from those who might have to read this book.

Every character in "The Manhood Ceremony" is boring -- from the 12-year-old kidnap victim to the Gay "baseball player turned cop." Some writers have the gift of creating living characters; the author of this book has no gifts at all. The characters here are out

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of junk fiction, fit for a made-for-TV movie: the "tired but still dedicated" cop, the "drunken, pill popping" mother of the boy, the "adulterous, prematurely ejaculating" father. Yuck!

Even the basics like exposition are marred with heavy-handedness. Here is how we overhear two Gay men in a bar discussing a third:

"I didn't know he was Gay." His voice was husky and surprised.

"You never know. Anybody could be," was the cryptic, thick-tongued retort of his friend.

Now the naive straight reader will "understand" why there are several kinds of queers in this book, not just your average screaming queen. (I hope the "eminent physician" isn't a surgeon, or at least that he never operates on me.)

\* \* \*

I picked up this novel expecting to be entertained. But apparently Simon and Schuster has sunk so far into commercial fiction it doesn't even read what it publishes anymore, just grinds out the crap. And this "Gay" book is just as crappy as any other junk-market slop that corporation-owned publishers MANUFACTURE — not publish — these days. (Whoever wrote the copy for the dust jacket gives the whole plot away before the reader can open the book and thus robs the reader of the little interest there is. He/she should be shot, too.)

Most objectionable — this isn't a "Gay" book at all. It smells of being "created" (if that's the term) by outsiders from conception to finished product — right down to the picture of the naked, tied-up boy on the cover. In fact, I can see lurking behind it the old idea that child molestation is a particularly "Gay" problem and hence of special interest to homosexuals. But that's beside the point here because this book is so wooden I couldn't even recommend it to a child molester, if I knew any. I read half of it and recommend that you don't read that much.

Daniel Curzon

(ED. NOTE: Daniel Curzon is the author of several novels and many short stories. His latest books are "The Revolt of the Perverts" and "Among the Carnivores." He was nominated for Original Writing, Drama for "Sex Show" by the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle, 1977.)

## Punk Bands Raise Over \$3,000 for Striking Miners

Fourteen Northern California new wave rock 'n' roll bands raised

## Lesbian Legal Rights Workshops Scheduled

The Lesbian Rights Project in conjunction with the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women and the San Francisco Y.W.C.A. is sponsoring a series of workshops on the legal rights of Bay Area Lesbians. The workshop sessions will be held on consecutive Tuesday nights between April 18 and May 23. The topics to be covered during the six workshop sessions are:

### APRIL 18

**DEALING WITH THE LEGAL SYSTEM AND HOW TO ASSERT OUR RIGHTS:** An overview of the legal system, dealing with lawyers and asserting our right to good representation and decision making.

### APRIL 25

**CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES:** A discussion of the legal threats to Lesbian mothers, our right to raise families, the rights of environmental mothers who have a parental relationship with the child and providing for custody in the event of death.

### MAY 2

**ISSUES FACING MINORS:** A discussion of the legal rights and problems of Lesbians under the age of 18 and the minor children of Lesbian mothers.

### MAY 9

**EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION:** A discussion of discriminations in employment that are related to being Lesbian including the special problems faced by those in child-oriented jobs and the military.

### MAY 16

**PROPERTY AND HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS:** A discussion of the ways to buy property, arrange bank accounts, provide for "break ups" and death and deal with housing discrimination.

### MAY 23

**MISC. ECONOMIC ISSUES:** A discussion of insurance, the tax system, providing for disability and retirement and forming partnerships.

All workshop sessions will start at 7:00pm and be held at the Y.W.C.A., 620 Sutter Street, Room 700B. Childcare and wheelchair access will be provided.

\$3,300 for striking mine workers by putting on two nights of benefit performances at the Mabuhay Gardens on March 20 and 21. Both shows were filled to capacity.

According to Richie Detrick, lead singer of the Nuns, and one of the organizers, "Now's when the miners need our help. They're being pressured, financially and through media-manipulated public opinion, to give in to the demands of profit-hungry mine owners. If this money and our support helps them hold out for justice, we've really accomplished something. We've tried as much as we could to get out and tell people in the community about the real issues in the strike and how they affect all of us."

The money was raised for the Stearns County (Kentucky) Legal Defense Fund. Many of the bands participating are wary of large bureaucratic organizations and distrust United Mine Workers headquarters and do not want their feelings of solidarity

Doting 53 yr. young man regrets imminent demise distinguished (but cheap) S.F. mother-in-law. Prognosis 2-3 months. Seeks adequate replacement of sound character to allay mourning. Family trees happily compared. Don. 668-4229. E8

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Goodlooking Filipino guy, 5'5", 121lbs., looking for men over 30 for fun and games. I have a PhD in taking it in the rear. Definitely a lover Call Mike, 673-6925. E7

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